

Dumbleton Conservation Society Newsletter

UPDATE ON GOLDEN HAY PLANNING APPLICATION

In our March newsletter this year (available at dumbletonconservationsociety.com), we reported on the planning application for Golden Hay field at the north end of the village. Golden Hay is one of several sites in Dumbleton likely to be targeted for development so it's helpful to understand how this planning application progressed after March.

As well as an objection from the Parish Council (available at <https://bit.ly/3BSHvoD>), over 70 individual representations expressed opposition to the proposed development of 8 dwellings on land behind Golden Hay.

Also, the Highways Authority recommended refusal of the application on the basis that due to the location of the site

"there are no realistic transport choices other than the private vehicle to gain access to the site. This proposal would be car-dominated and fails to address sustainable transport; these matters cannot be mitigated."

The developer subsequently withdrew the planning application, so it wasn't brought before Tewkesbury Borough Council's planning committee.

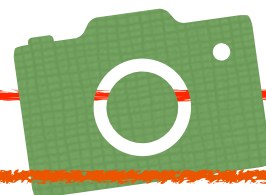
DCS is keeping track of other planning applications in the village to ensure that any developments are sensitive to the village, its needs and its setting, and that this protects the heritage and ecology of Dumbleton parish.

Calendar Competition



We see wildlife around us all the time, from robins to roe deer, spiders to slow worms, butterflies to beech trees, and Dumbleton provides a glorious backdrop. We are launching a Dumbleton Calendar Competition, open to all residents of the village with adult and under 16 categories. We'd love to collect funny, amazing, interesting or simply beautiful pictures of our surroundings.

Starting today and running throughout 2023, please send us your photos to dumbletoncs@aol.com, covering Autumn, Winter, Spring and Summer with your name and age (if u16). The winners will find their picture in pride of place on the DCS website and a final selection will be included in the Dumbleton Conservation Calendar for 2024..



Interested in joining Dumbleton Conservation Society?

Then please email peterst1607@gmail.com or give your name and email address to Peter Stanley at 2 Silver Hay.

Dumbleton Parish Neighbourhood Plan



Following a parish-wide survey in 2021, with the majority of responses in favour of adopting a Neighbourhood Plan, the Council passed a resolution by majority vote in November 2021 to start the formal process (<https://bit.ly/3N6F5Zi>). The first stage in adopting a Neighbourhood Plan is to apply for the designation of the *neighbourhood area* – the area to be covered by the Plan – with the local planning authority. Usually, this area is the same as the parish boundary.

Our application has been delayed by the outcome of Tewkesbury Borough Council's (TBC) *Parish Boundary Review*. The review published a draft recommendation that a new Parish Meeting be created for Wormington with the creation of a new Dumbleton Parish Council to represent Dumbleton and Great Washbourne. TBC voted to accept this recommendation in May 2022, and the new parish boundary will be in place before the local elections in May 2023. The Parish Council is still awaiting official notification of this change from TBC, delaying its application of the neighbourhood area designation.

I'm pleased to say that the application has now been made and the Council is awaiting the decision from TBC. If the designation is accepted, the work of adopting the Neighbourhood Plan can begin. It's important to note that the Neighbourhood Plan is not driven by the Parish Council but is the work of the Plan Team, made up of residents from around the parish. I'm hoping that many of you who expressed an interest in helping will be able to join the team.

The Council has passed a resolution to work with consultants Andrea Pellegram Ltd. to help with the adoption of the Plan – there's more information about them here: <https://bit.ly/3f0Evjm>. They are specialists in neighbourhood planning who focus on supporting local councils and communities and have worked on several Neighbourhood Plans for other Councils in the region. We're looking forward to using their expertise to help with all aspects of our Plan.

I'd encourage everyone to learn more about a neighbourhood plan by visiting <https://bit.ly/3zg1EFc>, which has excellent information about what it is and is involved. The Neighbourhood Plan is an opportunity for everyone in the parish to have a say in the future of the development of our beautiful villages and will help us to maintain and enhance what we love about where we live.



Dumbleton Ecological Survey



One of our key aims is to promote the protection and enhancement of Dumbleton's landscape and ecology. Over the last few weeks, we have been running some surveys to better understand the wildlife around the village. We did some initial bat surveying using detectors that allow us to pick up high-frequency bat calls and found five species in the village – we hope to run more dusk bat walks next spring/summer so watch this space!

As shown in the photo, we also deployed hedgehog tunnels, which contain a small inkpad and bait, to record hedgehogs using footprints.

