

# Dumbleton Conservation Society

## Newsletter - Heritage and wildlife

### Saving our Heritage

Our green spaces, local landscape and heritage are constantly being eroded, so we want to protect their local landmarks.

The Dumbleton village telephone kiosk has attracted a lot of attention in recent years due to it taking on characteristics of Italy's famous leaning tower of Pisa.



Okay that's a little bit of a stretch but the box is leaning at a jaunty angle thanks to roots from a nearby Wellingtonia tree and is a familiar talking point for villager and visitors.

The Society has teamed up with Dumbleton Village Hall to save the red kiosk and together we have successfully stopped a new destruction order and DVH has adopted the kiosk. The previous adoption stalled due to the 2020 COVID pandemic. The Village Hall has begun raising funds for the adoption, refurbishment, and relocation of the kiosk.

The initial fundraising target is £5,000 and "GoFundMe" page has been setup for anyone wishing to support the adoption and refurbishment of iconic landmark.

### Bat Walks & More



Last year we held a well-supported and much enjoyed Bat walk led by Anne Goodenough, Professor in Applied Ecology. This year Anne will lead more events, with a Bat Walk at 7:30pm on 6/7th September. With at least 11 of the 17 UK bat species breeding in the area, we hope for an even more interesting evening!

We are also planning a Bird & Butterfly Walk 8<sup>th</sup> June and a Moth Walk 12<sup>th</sup> July.

To book a place on any of these events please email, [peterst1607@gmail.com](mailto:peterst1607@gmail.com).

### Village Calendar 2025



Following the success of the village calendar in 2024, we are now open for entries for the 2025 Calendar. This year there is no specific theme, and we are looking for photographs on any subject, past or present, and the image can be natural or enhanced as long as it is from the Dumbleton area.

Please email entries to [peterst1607@gmail.com](mailto:peterst1607@gmail.com) by 31<sup>st</sup> October. Photos should be in landscape (4:3) wider than taller.

### Golden Hay Field Planning Update

The planning application made in June'23 is still open. You may recall that the consultation was carried out in July'23 and many residents responded, the overwhelming majority were objections on the grounds laid out in our last newsletter. You can find this on our website:

[www.dumbletonconservationsociety.com](http://www.dumbletonconservationsociety.com)

see the page titled "Golden Hay Field Planning AP"



The applicant has been given more time by the Tewkesbury Borough Council Planning Officer to respond to the objections and submit missing documentation from the original application. **There are now NEW drawing and documents from the applicant and a NEW consultation is underway.**

This has been going on for 9 months now and DCS are of the opinion that this is unreasonable and favours the applicant.

In the meantime, there is now a material change in the policy landscape in that applications now need to prove that there is a 10% net gain in biodiversity (for developments over 9 properties), and while this is not a legal requirement for the original application, it is a material factor in a site with such importance for wildlife. (11 of 17 UK bat species have been recorded in this 1.5 hectare site!)

DCS has reviewed the revised documentation, and the majority of our objections remain valid. We will continue to raise concerns with planning applications to ensure that they are sensitive to the needs and setting of the village and protect our heritage and ecology.

**We encourage you to take a fresh look at the impact of this development and consider how that will play out in the future, if approved.**

### Call for New Members

If you have a desire to protect our heritage and ecology, and a passion for ensuring our village is developed sensitively and in keeping with its setting in the Cotswold National Landscape\*, please join us at one of our meetings, or contact Pete Stanley, Secretary at [peterst1607@gmail.com](mailto:peterst1607@gmail.com)

