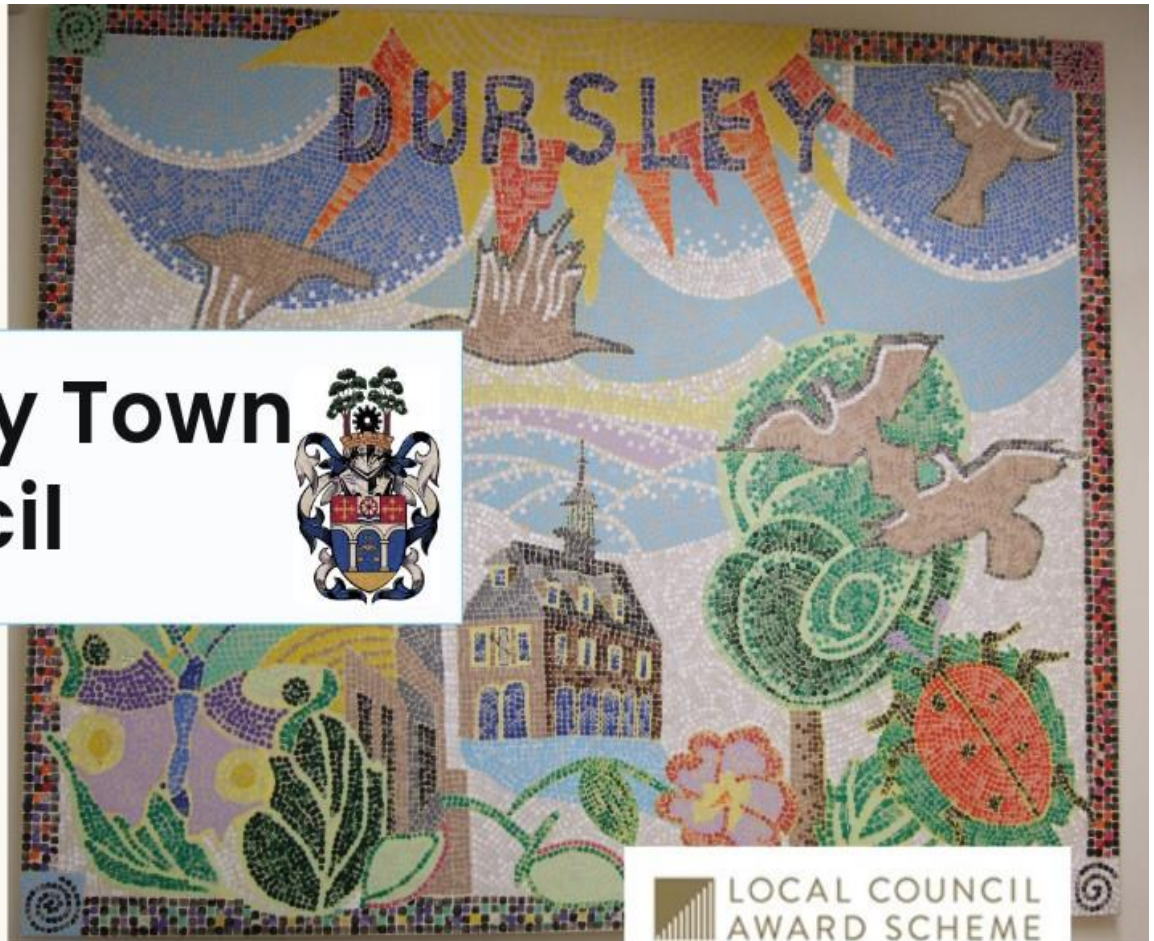


Dursley Town Council

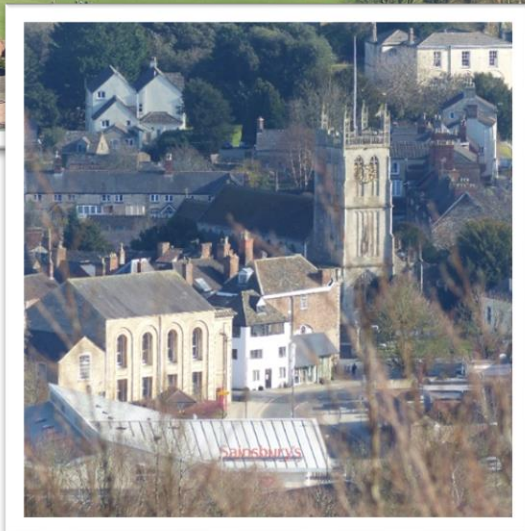
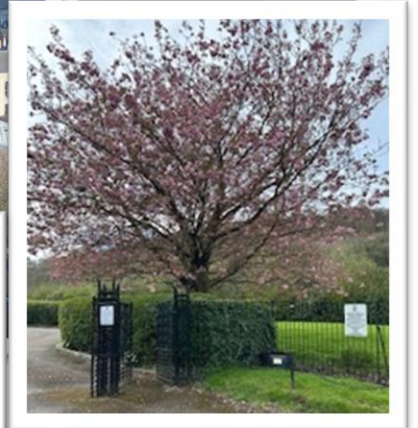
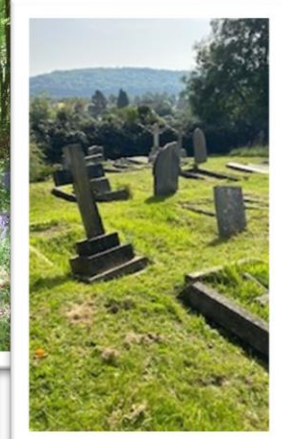


LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD

Councillor & Community Group Report 2023-2024

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Councillor and Community Group Report 2023 - 2024



Reports from Councillors

- Gloucestershire County Councillor Wendy Thomas
 - Stroud District Councillor Doina Cornell
 - Stroud District Councillor Loraine Patrick

Reports from Community Groups

- Cam, Dursley & Uley Joint Woodlands Management Committee
 - The Chantry Centre
- Churches Together in Cam, Dursley and District (CTCDD)
 - Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper
 - The Door
 - Dursley After Hours
- Dursley and District Association for the Transport of the Disabled and Elderly
 - Dursley in Bloom
 - Dursley Male Voice Choir
 - Dursley Neighbourhood Policing Team
 - Dursley Pride
 - Dursley Rugby Football Club
 - Dursley Tabernacle Community Food Hub
 - Dursley United Charity
 - Festive Dursley
 - GL11 Community Hub
 - Great Western Air Ambulance Charity
 - Home-Start Stroud and Gloucester
 - Twinberrow Foundation

Wendy Thomas, County Councillor for Dursley Division Annual Report for Dursley Town Assembly 2024

Bus Transport

Looking back at the last year, I am happy to say that there is for once some positive news on bus transport. At Gloucestershire County Council, I chaired the Bus Services Improvement Group, a cross-party group which met for several months to dig deep into how bus transport could be improved across the county. We made numerous recommendations, which are now being considered by the GCC Cabinet.

Bus transport reliability in Dursley and the surrounding area is vastly improved. Thankfully we no longer have to monitor Twitter every day to see the numerous cancellations. Whilst the situation is far from perfect, it is heartening to see that the buses are mostly reliable now and that central government has extended the £2 fare scheme—a welcome development in the cost of living crisis.

We are hoping to have further good news on buses shortly, with an expanded Sunday service from Dursley to Stroud and the promise of additional evening services on the 65.

Road Safety

Frocester Hill junction: Although not in Dursley, the junction of Frocester Hill is heavily used by anyone travelling towards Nympsfield or Stroud and it has long been an accident hotspot. After months of working with local parish councils, residents and GCC Highways, I am happy to report that significant improvements were at last implemented. These include rumble strips, additional signage, more road markings and Vehicle Activated Signs that illuminate and warn drivers if there are cars approaching the junction. There have been no vehicles leaving the road at the junction since these improvements were made.

Parsonage Street: I continue to get reports of excessive parking and speed on Parsonage Street and along with Dursley Town Council I have raised this with GCC Highways and Parking. We will shortly arrange a meeting with parking enforcement to discuss the issues in depth.

Silver Street: The narrow pavements in this part of the town centre are an ongoing worry and recently a resident walking on the pavement was grazed and knocked over by a passing vehicle. I have asked GCC Highways again to consider what additional safety measures are possible in this area.

Highways

In addition to the road safety works above, I have worked with GCC Highways to improve pavements and footpaths in the area. For example: proper dropped kerbs in front of Champions Court, as well as the junction of Garden Suburb and Kingshill Road; clearing the footpath between Fort Lane and Henlow Drive; tidying up the footpath behind Rednock and between the Knapp and Kingshill Lane.

I have also helped to progress improvements to the drainage and junction at the bottom of Long Street and Lister Road, where there was often significant flooding after heavy rains. This is now improved.

Councillor and Community Group Report 2023 - 2024

Potholes and resurfacing: There continue to be many streets in Dursley that have potholes or need resurfacing. GCC has new online system for reporting these issues; it allows you to monitor progress on any incidents: <https://fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk/>

May Lane grit bins: A local resident contacted me to suggest that a grit bin would be helpful on May Lane, near the bungalows. That area often gets icy in winter and many residents are older. GCC had additional funding for grit bins and I worked with Dursley Town Council to find a suitable location for a bin.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any assistance; I am happy to help:

Email: wendy.thomas@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Phone: 07570 931816

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Wendy4Dursley/>

Cllr. Doina Cornell Annual Report for Dursley Town Assembly 2024

Email: cldr.doina.cornell@stroud.gov.uk

For the last year I have been Chair of Stroud District Council and I have enjoyed chairing council meetings as well as representing the Council at civic events. I have continued in my role as Migrant Member Champion, supporting our Ukrainian guests, and all refugees within our district, especially working with local volunteers to support asylum-seekers located at the Prince of Wales Hotel on the A38. Although the hotel has now been discontinued as asylum accommodation, the bonds of friendship created between local people and asylum seekers from some of the most troubled parts of the world remain strong, with some having now been granted leave to remain in the UK. Alongside Cllr. Loraine Patrick, I have also been Armed Forces Champion supporting ex-service men and women in our district. I have also continued to deal with issues raised by local residents, for example around Littlecombe and other planning issues.

The council budget passed in February 2024 for the coming year contains some important investment which will directly benefit Dursley. Funding will go to the network of Community Hubs across the district such as GL11 Community Hub which is so important in supporting local people. £120,000 is also being allocated for additional climate and nature recovery projects, including further action to reduce single use plastics. Funding for new council homes in Dursley has been secured, and a new Market Towns Vitality Fund of £200,000 has been created to promote thriving high streets. This new fund will be co-designed with local town and parish councils, businesses and business organisations over the coming months so I look forward to Dursley playing its part in this.

I was especially pleased to see the newly refurbished playground opening earlier this year at Woodmancote after many residents have contacted me and the council about it. Other welcome news is the money secured to invest in making the Pulse more energy efficient and refurbishing the entrance area.

I was first elected to serve Dursley on the district council in 2012 and was re-elected in 2016 and 2021. I have made the difficult decision not to stand in the elections this May due to personal reasons. I have seen Dursley change a lot in these 12 years, more houses have been built, and our high street has revived after being quite run down when I moved here in 2000.

Councillor and Community Group Report 2023 - 2024

It has been an immense privilege to serve our town and meet so many amazing people and groups who are making a real difference to our community. A huge thank you to all the people of Dursley who have supported me through these years, I am grateful to live in such an amazing and vibrant town. I look forward to continuing to contribute to the town in my role as Chair of GL11 Community Hub and team member of Dursley After Hours.

Report from Cllr. Loraine Patrick, Stroud District Councillor for Dursley

The District Council restated its commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant by formally re-signing it on 16th March 2022, in recognition of the 10th Anniversary of its original adoption.

- The Armed Forces Covenant, Member Champions are Cllr Doina Cornell and myself Cllr Loraine Patrick.
- The Officer Champion is Keith Gerrard.
- SDC wants to become an exemplar in building strong respectful relationships with veterans and their families living in the district.
- There are many Veterans in Dursley and surrounding areas, and I would encourage them to make contact. As a Veteran myself I understand the particular frustrations and hope at least locally, to improve the way Veterans issues are dealt with. In order to succeed we need engagement from Veterans, your contribution is valuable, and no idea is too small or insignificant, be assured you will be listened to.

This is part of the report I gave in 2022, I'm pleased to say that we are making significant progress, we have a working group that has real influence and has grown out of all expectations. The website is regularly updated.

The most common thing I have to deal with is the damp and mould issue across Dursley's social housing, some issues have been resolved successfully and in a reasonable timeframe, others have and are taking longer to deal with.

There are other issues with our social housing which require frequent attention.

We have refurbished Acacia and Cambridge Avenue playparks, and they appear to be well used.

May I ask that if people have an ongoing case with Stroud District Council and they feel that it's not being resolved, please contact your ward member and ask for help. We can't fix what we don't know about.

Loraine Patrick, Stroud District Councillor for Dursley
email cllr.loraine.patrick@stroud.gov.uk

CAM, DURSLEY & ULEY JOINT WOODLANDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

Overview of the committee

- The Committee is external to Cam Parish Council, Dursley Town Council and Uley Parish Council
- It was set up in 1994 in a contract with Stroud District Council (SDC – the land owners)

The Function of the Committee

The governance agreement with SDC delegated powers to the Cam, Dursley and Uley Joint Woodlands Committee to manage woodlands and grasslands – all of which are environmentally sensitive:

- 40 Hectares of woodland in Dursley (Cockshoot Wood) and Cam (Sheep Path Wood & Westfield Wood) that comprise of rare ancient woodland
- 31 Hectares of grassland at Cam Long Down and Cam Peak
- 5 Hectares of grassland and woodland at Uley Bury

The Management requirement is to:

- Maintain paths, gates, fences, cattle grids, trees, ponds and parking areas
- Provide and operate a conservation plan

Objectives of Management Plan:

- To maintain lands under management according to best practice for the recreation and exercise of local residents and visitors
- High level Stewardship of environmentally sensitive areas

Membership of the Committee:

- Two councillors from each of the three parishes

Supporting officers:

- Clerk/Finance officer – honoraria payment
- Part time paid Land Manager – contracted
- Footpath Warden – honoraria payment
- Officer from SDC

Funding Sources:

- Stroud District Council
- RPA (Rural Payments Agency)
- Cam Parish Council
- Dursley Town Council
- Uley Parish Council
- Donations in kind from Cotswold Wardens
- Occasional donations

Meetings

- Quarterly meetings are held usually on a Monday evening at 7 pm
- Extra meetings may be necessary occasionally

CAM, DURSLEY & ULEY JOINT WOODLANDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

General Report

The Management Committee has spent the year addressing regular maintenance tasks such as dealing with broken fences and gates, fallen trees (many this year caused by storms), blocked footpaths, scrub cutting, bracken cutting, supervising grazing arrangements, and general conservation. A big difference in our work load this year has been down to ash dieback. A survey was carried out in Cam and Dursley Woods that identified trees with the disease and a felling priority list. It's an issue that has been intensifying our responsibilities for many years but over the last year, as the affected trees become potentially more unstable, this has meant much more felling than previously, stretching resources more than ever.

Regular reports, by our Footpath Warden, on the footpaths across the land within our responsibility are invaluable. They mean that any issues such as diseased and fallen trees can be assessed quickly, by our land manager, and dealt with appropriately.

Part of the CDUJWMC's job is to protect the natural landscape. Cam & Dursley Woods, a rare, ancient woodland, Cam Peak and Uley Bury are all environmentally sensitive areas which offer a rich diversity of habitats that provide refuges and corridors for plants and wildlife. They require specialist knowledge to maintain and conserve them. Advice is taken from our Land Manager, the Forestry Commission and other bodies.

One question that is often asked about the ash felling is whether it will lead to deforestation, but we want to assure those concerned that regeneration will take place naturally and if not then planting new trees is an option.

The committee is currently working on art work for welcoming signs that will incorporate information about the woods, to be placed at the entrances to Cam and Dursley woods.

Grazing at Cam Peak and Uley Bury is an important element of the conservation programme and grazing contracts are arranged accordingly.

Other issues that have challenged us in previous years continue, like anti-social behaviour such as littering and fly tipping, including dumping of spoil in the woods, theft of wood left in the woodland as part of our conservation programme, illegal camping, motorised vehicles, damage to trees, the forest floor and grasslands. While incidents have come down since the pandemic, all of these issues remain a concern.

Changes within the committee

On 24/04/23 Jonathan Fulcher was voted in as Chairman, David Lungley as Vice-Chairman and the committee approved Christina Carter as the new clerk.

CAM, DURSLEY & ULEY JOINT WOODLANDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The committee was allocated a new SDC Officer, Mike Wardell to replace Rozelle Jachowicz who has retired. He is Senior Community Services Officer recently moving departments from 'Independent Living' into 'Open Spaces' with a focus on biodiversity.

Cam councillor Mike Grimshaw joined the committee in July 23. Doina Cornell resigned as a Dursley councillor and CDUJWMC member in December 2023.

The committee works within a governance agreement with Stroud District Council (SDC – the land owners) which was last updated in 1994. This agreement is currently being reviewed.

Financial statement

Lloyds Treasurer's account:

Opening balance 06/04/23	£25796.40
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Balance at 25.03.24	£23307.33
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Income over year to date:	£22346.00
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Expenditure over year to date:	£23535.00
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Estimated budget requirement 24/25:	£32,500.00
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Specific events

Cam Peak



bramble patches in that area.

Grazing at Cam Peak: The committee approved a reduction in fee having considered the need to retain cows grazing there as part of our conservation plan against the fact that the grazier's income may be negatively affected by the Basic Payment Scheme changes which could affect their decision to carry on with the contract. The grazier offered to contribute in other ways by cutting the roadside and pond hedges and dealing with

CAM, DURSLEY & ULEY JOINT WOODLANDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The traditional procession and the placing of the cross on Cam Peak by Churches Together at Easter 2023 went smoothly.



The committee is not responsible for the safety of this popular annual event but has ensured that the 120 year old flag staff to which the cross is attached is secure as part of its general maintenance work at Cam Peak and to preserve it as part of the area's historical heritage. This requires regular filling of holes that develop around it by carrying filling material from elsewhere in the area that is in keeping with the soil in the eroded spots.

On the Bridle Path inside the gate at the bottom of Cam Peak an issue needed to be resolved with a utility company who had been responsible for some cabling work. The ground had not been restored properly and an incident with a horse had been reported. The area was restored and is now safe.

Regeneration of the grass on top of Cam Peak: The fence placed on Cam Peak to help regenerate the grass there was finally removed in December 2023. It was important to have had the fence in place to protect extremely worn areas. It was done this way because of the ecological importance of the area. It is unimproved acidic grassland which is a 'priority habitat' under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. The acid soils of Cam Peak are uncommon in this part of Gloucestershire and contain interesting and some rare plants such as Sheep's-sorrel, Bird's-foot, Sea Mouse-ear, Early Hair-grass, Trailing Tormentil, Heath Bedstraw and Western Gorse. Fledgling trees are also regularly removed to preserve the historically open grassland eco zone.

Conservation work and biodiversity

The Chairman stated his ambition for the committee to work closely with SDC and particularly with the new Biodiversity officer, to ensure that biodiversity is at the heart land stewardship. The Biodiversity officer complimented the approach as one that it is important for all management committees such as ours, landowners and councils to get on board with.

Controlling Himalayan balsam in Cam and Dursley Woods: The plant is problematic because it is invasive, spreads fast and competes with native plants for light, nutrients pollinators and space, reducing biodiversity rapidly.

CAM, DURSLEY & ULEY JOINT WOODLANDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



Volunteer working parties who spent many days and weeks in 2022 pulling the plant up made a big difference to its spread in 2023. Our footpath warden continued to organise sessions in spring and summer 2023 to ensure getting on top of the problem.



We are grateful to all the volunteers from the committee, the Cotswolds Wardens, the Stinchcombe Hill Trust and other members of the public who attended these working parties.

A certain amount of our felled timber is left in Cam and Dursley Woods, as part of our conservation plan, to encourage biodiversity of species. Some has been illegally removed.

Uley Bury: Work continued with the Uley volunteer group in collaboration with our land manager to manage the slopes above the woodland, to maintain them as a valuable low scrub and grassland habitat for certain rare species. Thanks go to all involved including the Uley footpath warden.

31/03/24 CDUJWMC ANNUAL REPORT by Christina Carter, clerk. Approved by Chairman, Jon Fulcher

Councillor and Community Group Report 2023 - 2024



Chantry Centre
for all our community

34/36 Long Street
Dursley
Gloucestershire
GL11 4JB

2023 saw a number of significant positive developments for the Chantry Centre.

First and foremost, use of The Chantry Centre was up – as evidenced by a 35% increase in income from room hire for the year to August 2023, supported by a significant increase in smaller donations.

This was due in part to improved marketing (a more active social media presence, a new website) together with a degree of “pent up” demand to celebrate special events held over from COVID-19. The range of different community groups and organisations using The Chantry Centre continues to grow and currently stands at over 30 – as shown in the graphic below. The Trustees are most grateful for their support.



The volunteer-run Garden Café continues to go from strength to strength, and its contribution to the wellbeing of the Chantry Centre (both financially and socially) increased during the year.

Over the winter 2022/23, in response to the cost of living crisis, the Chantry Centre actively participated in the “Warm Welcome” programme co-ordinated by GL11 and funded by the National Lottery Awards for All fund. Just under 300 visits to our Soft Play sessions were recorded, while other visitors found a warm welcome in the lounge and craft areas. Over the period we served up over 500 hot bowls of soup, toasties and jacket potatoes. The Soft Play sessions were continued into winter 2023/24 and in the 3 months to the end of the year a further 300 children attended with 450 toasties served.

Councillor and Community Group Report 2023 - 2024

During the year, thanks in part to a generous private donation The Chantry Centre continued to work with Dursley After Hours to bring their popular community music events “under cover” for the winter.

In November 2022 30 solar panels and associated battery storage were funded by the Littlecombe S106. This, along with the replacement (thanks to generous funding by the Somerfield Charitable Trust) of several old, inefficient electrical appliances, meant that over a 12 month period daytime energy consumption fell by around 40% and nighttime by around 25%.

Other major works on site during the year included the redevelopment of a part of the stage door area (providing the Garden Café with a direct entrance) and the removal of asbestos from ceilings at the front of the building. These works were funded by the S106 money together with a generous grant from Dursley Town Council. As a result, any further works at The Chantry Centre can be undertaken secure in the knowledge that the work areas are asbestos-free.

If the Chantry Centre is to be fit-for-purpose, significant further refurbishment work remains and the focus continues to be on:

- **Reducing operating costs**
- **Improving accessibility:** a priority is the installation of step-free access to the stage door area to the side of the Chantry Centre.
- **Improving the “kerbside” appeal of the Chantry Centre:** planning consent has been granted for a scheme which includes a new glass foyer, but at an estimated cost in excess of £500k it is unaffordable in its current form.

However, during the year it became clear that there has been a significant reduction in the availability of grants to support such work and inflation has hit the costs of building works hard. As a result, the short term focus of refurbishment is upon lower cost changes which have the most significant positive impact.

Churches Together in Cam, Dursley and District.

Over the past year our churches have been open, welcoming and active in the community. In addition to our regular programmes of worship we have sought to serve Dursley in various ways. Whether this be by using our buildings as places where people and community organisations can meet, supporting local charities or working alongside other community groups on various projects.

These include the Community Food Hub at the Tab, Friends at Christmas, fundraising for Christian Aid, The Alzheimer’s Society and other charities, organising pop-up cafes to support families in school holidays, co-ordinating a child contact centre, enabling a weekly youth drop in session at The Vibe, providing a Door support worker to Rednock School via the Illuminate Project, and, of course, organising the annual Good Friday Walk of Witness carrying a cross to the top of Cam Peak.

Each individual church has their own activities that run throughout the year, far too many to list here and all of our members/attendees/worshippers are encouraged to connect with and serve their local community in whatever way they can.

Rev Phil Summers, Convenor of Churches Together in Cam, Dursley and District 2023/24



Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper

Registered Charity No: 1049409

This is the annual report for Dursley Town Council for the year 2023 – 2024.

The Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper has continued to operate throughout this year with 4 volunteers producing the first half of the programme in the studio. The second half of news and more light-hearted stories is read by volunteers at home. Our listeners enjoy these and occasionally read a recipe themselves or give us ideas for other topics.

We have recruited a number of new volunteers able to multitask. These include an A level pupil who helps us as part of her Community Enhancement work, which listeners tell us they enjoy very much.

We are attending local community events and open days and have extended our actions into giving more talks to groups. Our aim this year is to visit eye clinics and visual support groups to give out our new leaflets and make contacts to increase the number of listeners able to receive our recordings.

Mary Moss

Chairman of Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper

March 2024



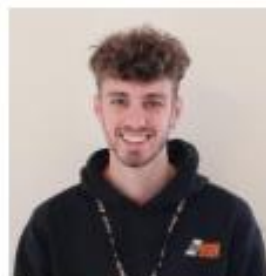
UNLOCKING POTENTIAL... OPENING OPPORTUNITY...

Charity: 1131919
Company: 6999936

Dursley Annual Assembly Report: The Door 2023/2024

The past year has been an eventful year, as is often the case in youthwork.

In Dursley, there has been tension amongst young people throughout the year at varying levels. Whilst the majority of this was small disagreements that blew over within a week, there were some cases of bigger antisocial behaviour issues. In some cases leading to young people getting themselves excluded from youth clubs if their behaviour was not appropriate and potentially upsetting others in the space. In these cases, we would make sure to try and engage with them to get them back into the youth club so that they could also benefit from the space.



Despite the challenges we faced, there was a lot to celebrate too, there were always lots of positive sessions and months where we saw great engagement throughout the youth club. There was a clear priority amongst young people to protect The Vibe as a safe space, where they can be with friends, play on the xbox, play games, play pool and enjoy any other activities that were on.

A particular highlight in the youth work delivery was our summer programme which was part of HAF. On top of the activities we offered, we were able to provide food too in each week of August. This included cooking one week, having a BBQ another, a treat day (where we ordered in food) and a trip to AirHop. In addition to the trip to AirHop, we had another trip to Barry Island for a beach day out, and had an escape room in the youth club run by The Engine.



In January, we brought back a dedicated chill/quiet session by popular demand, which proved to be much needed, as sessions had become very busy and lively. Although this was not a bad thing, it was good to have a dedicated chill session for those that can get overwhelmed by the liveliness and enjoy their peace and quiet a little more. The Door conducted some young people surveys, getting 152 responses from Dursley with the aim to hear young people's voices and understanding their needs to help inform our practice, making sure that it remains relevant and appropriate.



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NYA
Quality Mark





In April we held the second annual Skate4Josh event, having an estimate of 200 people come along, in what was a very positive community event.

Our Community Youth Worker for Cam and Dursley, Noah, has been busy with schools work, going into Rednock weekly at lunch times to speak with young people during their lunch breaks. He has also been piloting a drop in support session at the end of the school day for anyone that wants to talk through anything. Outside of Rednock, Noah has been in the primary schools delivering some Year 6 transition work.

We have also had the privilege to be a part of some community events throughout the year, including the King's Coronation celebrations, Dursley Pride and Christmas Lights switch on.

In September, The Door launched its Digital Youth Work with weekly live streams on YouTube. The aim of the project being to be able to provide youth work provisions to those that may struggle to engage with our typical youth club provision due to various circumstances such as anxiety or disabilities (and those that attend youth club too of course).



The Door continues to take pride in the standard of its work, aiming to support the needs of young people built around hope for a future that is not determined by ones past.



In youth clubs, we continue to deliver a fluid programme around voluntary participation, informal learning and positive activities. Providing a safe space for them to be, talk to trusted adults and make friends with peers. Continuing to support the needs of both the young people and the community, including working closely together with schools, PCSOs and other community groups.

More about our services and support is on our website www.thedoor.org.uk

Dursley After Hours Report- Dursley Annual Meeting

Our monthly music events throughout the summer continued to prove successful. Crowd numbers were consistent with an average of approximately 70 people attending each event. We booked a good variety of music ranging from a steel band to bluegrass. The age range of people attending our events has struck us and it has been wonderful to see young families

and older people out enjoying a summer evening in a safe and welcoming space. We're looking forward to a new series of events starting in May.

We held our first Dursley After Hours Undercover in the Chantry Centre in January where we raised £780 for the GL11 Warm Spaces Fund. The event saw a great turn out, estimated at least 200 people. More events are set to take place, one on the 7th of April and another in the autumn.

Our events are growing in popularity every year and we're anticipating the year ahead.



Councillor and Community Group Report 2023 - 2024

THE DURSLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION FOR THE TRANSPORT OF THE DISABLED AND ELDERLY CHARITY Reg No. 266468

REPORT FOR THE DURSLEY ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, APRIL 2024

INTRODUCTION

This Charity locally known as DATE has been operating a 12 seat Minibus in the District for more than 40 years. It is a Volunteer run Organisation relying on income from its 'User Groups' and Grants and donations from various sources around the district (Dursley Town Council, Gloucestershire County Council, Cam Parish Council, Dursley Rotary, etc.).

The purpose of the Charity is to support Local Groups with Transport to bring their members to meetings or go on outings. DATE's 'Charter' states that it will be used for the benefit of the Elderly and Disabled, including Young People with Disabilities, so they may enjoy group meetings and social events. This is good for their overall health.



DATE currently has 8 User Groups. As with similar Groups, recovery to pre Covid has not been as expected and certain Groups have not recommenced.

We are an Organisation that is reliant on the 'Good Will' of Volunteers who offer their time to support the operation. A number of the Team are now looking to 'retire' and this will leave DATE struggling to continue to operate for the benefit of the Community.

OPERATION DETAILS (23/24)

- DATE currently has 9 Drivers and 6 Support Team Volunteers. We need about 20 people in total.
- DATE typically runs 2000 miles/year, carries 2100 passengers/year on 284 single trips/year.
- The DATE Minibus is almost 12 years old and requires replacing.

THE WAY FORWARD

If the Community want the Support of DATE then Date needs the Support of the Community to continue.

To continue DATE needs more Volunteers, Drivers and Support 'Staff'. Also funding for the purchase of a replacement Vehicle.

- **Drivers** would require a 'D1' category driving licence (Minibus). Unfortunately younger drivers today do not automatically have this on their licences. Further familiarisation training will be given by DATE.
- **Support 'Staff'** with administrative 'skill' would be appreciated to take on certain activities of those who are wishing to retire.
- **Funding.** A difficult issue. This could be covered by more Groups using the Minibus, a generous Sponsor/s or a Community Funding effort.

- **Amalgamate.** The possibility of joining with a like-minded organisation to continue supporting the Community.

If you can help please get in touch with DATE

CONTACT – Ann Lyon c/o Dursley Town Council – 01453 547758
Email: admin@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk or mikelyon1@btinternet.com



Dursley In Bloom

I personally have been associated with Dursley in Bloom since retiring from teaching in 2012 and have seen various changes in that time.

Perhaps the main one is that we now no longer participate in the annual Britain in Bloom competition organised by the Royal Horticultural Society. The reason for this is that it took a huge amount of time and effort, not least in the paperwork and power point presentations we had to produce. That, combined with needing to involve local schools, playgroups, scouts etc and local businesses, all seemed to miss the point of actually making the town look attractive. As only one third of the points allocated by RHS went on actual displays, we felt it was time to prioritise on what we felt to be important...the actual floral displays rather than bureaucracy. The RHS do a great job, but for our small team it was proving too much. Interestingly other local towns such as Nailsworth and Wotton under Edge also no longer compete.

So, just what do we do? Below is a list of the various planters we are responsible for:-

- Henlow Corner...a large area with many bushes and perennials



Councillor and Community Group Report 2023 - 2024

- The Broadwell...4 large circular planters plus one large brick planter
- DTC Offices...3 half barrels
- Post Office...1 large brick planter with perennials
- Market Hall...4 small wooden planters plus 4 larger half barrels
- Under the trees and by the wall of the Coventry Building Society
- By the Market Hall roundabout... 3 large oblong planters
- Parsonage Street...17 half barrels plus 2 small baskets
- Courtyard Clinic...3 large oblong planters
- May Lane Corner...a large area with many bushes and perennials
- Castle Street/outside Sainsbury's ...3 large hexagonal planters plus a large area of shrubs & bushes
- Bus Stop by the Pulse...6 smaller half barrels plus a smaller brick planter
- The Pulse...2 barrier baskets by the main entrance
- The Town Green...3 large wooden planters
- Long Street...one large oblong planter
- In addition, each summer we plant up 30 or so large hanging baskets for the shops along Parsonage Street.



Councillor and Community Group Report 2023 - 2024

During and after Covid we saw a decline in the number of volunteers helping with DIB; however our numbers have gradually improved. We are a group of about twenty who meet most weeks to do whatever is necessary, depending on the time



of year. We are currently getting ready to pot on small summer bedding plants as well as dead heading spring flowers which have gone over. We meet in the Chantry Centre garden where our greenhouse and polytunnel are.

we have had a number of problems this year; our polytunnel cover blew off a couple of times in the strong winds, leaving our hanging baskets to get soaked through with the persistent rain we've been having. In addition, our greenhouse is falling apart, literally, and desperately needs to be replaced before we can plant up the summer bedding plants. We are currently looking at replacements.

In addition, whether it is due to the amount of rain we have all endured, or something else, but our spring bulb displays are not what we were hoping for. We had planted over 600 JetFire narcissi and a further 450 Tulips (Verandi and Estella Rijnfeld) in addition to those already planted, but sadly, very few are coming up as yet. Last year we also planted 200 Allium Caerillium, and not one appeared in the planter by the Post Office!!

As all gardeners find, it is a constant challenge



However, it is not all gloom and doom. We all enjoy meeting up and doing what we can around the town for a couple of hours each week, we then treat ourselves to a coffee in town to discuss what needs to be done for the next week. We are always buoyed up when local people compliment us on our work, it makes it all worthwhile. Despite all having our own gardens, we love making our town look inviting and attractive to locals and visitors and will continue to do our best. Should anyone wish to join our small group please contact us through the Dursley Town Council office.

We are grateful to DTC for their financial support, as well as that of the groundsmen who help with some of the major tasks and clearing away our green waste as needed.

Dursley Male Voice Choir

Dursley Male Voice Choir is a well-regarded choir that was established in 1978. As well as providing an opportunity to learn and make music in a group setting, it creates male camaraderie; in addition singing is known to have wide ranging health benefits. We perform about 8 times a year at a variety of venues raising significant funds for local and national charities. We also tour both in the UK and internationally on a bi-annual basis. Practices take place in the Chantry Centre (Lister Hall) on Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

Over the last 12 months, amongst other events, we have had a concert to mark the 200th anniversary of Edward Jenner, performed in Tewkesbury Abbey, held a joint concert at Beaudesert School with the Stuart Singers from Minchinhampton, supported the Severn Area Rescue Association's open day and performed carols at Slimbridge, Cam and Dursley.

In October 2024 we are touring to Edinburgh where we will be singing in St Giles Cathedral on the Royal Mile as well as a joint concert with the Linlithgow Rugby Club Choir. Also look out for our local concerts, the near-term ones being: 16th April in Bristol Cathedral, 24th April with the Rednock Swing Band, 18th May in St James Church, Dursley and 16th June at The Goods Shed Arts Centre in Tetbury,

We are very keen to welcome new members to the choir. Previous singing experience is not necessary, neither is an ability to read music. If anyone is interested then you can contact Laurence Bryant on 07879 434797, e-mail the choir at info@dursleymalechoir.org.uk or just come along on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm.

More information about the choir, our music, performances and becoming a member is available on our website: www.dursleymalechoir.org.uk.

Annual Assembly Police update

We have PCSO's Abbi Barker and Rich Payne continuing to cover the Dursley area and we welcome PC James Withers to the team who will also be covering Dursley.

Overall we have had an increase in recorded crimes in the area over the last year compared to the previous year. This is not a massive increase and is not something to be concerned about.

Total crimes recorded	1st April 2022-31st March 2023	1st April 2023-27th March 2024
	505	520

Below are stats for recorded crime in the area for the past two years. These categories of crimes can be broken down in smaller sub categories. For example main offences for violence are harassment, assault with injury, public fear, alarm or distress and assault without injury. For burglary the main offence is towards businesses and community and for theft the main offence is shoplifting.

Recorded crimes	1st April 2022- 31st March 2023	1st April 2023- 27th March 2024
Violence	316	296
Sexual offences	22	20
Burglary	9	26
Theft	70	84
Criminal Damage	54	53
Drugs	9	3

In regards to anti-social behaviour in the area we currently have 9 young people on ASB warning letters with 2 of them engaging well with Youth Support. Incidents of ASB in the town have reduced and the young people are engaging well with the Police and other agencies. A Dursley task force has been sent up consisting of the Police, Rednock school, Town Council, The Library, Sainsburys, The Door, The Methodist church, The Tabernacle Church, St James church and YST. This is to have a joint approach towards solving the issue of ASB in the town.



Dursley Pride Annual Report 2023

Dursley Pride's aim is to hold an annual Pride event in Dursley, for the residents of Dursley, Cam, Uley, Coaley and Slimbridge. In order to do this we do fund raising events throughout the year. We also hold free LGBTQIA+ events, so that there is a safe space for our community to meet and have fun. We have an amazing committee of LGBTQIA+ people and allies, we all have different roles to suit each person's strengths and abilities.

Mascots

This year our mascots, The Dursley Unicorns were born. The Dursley Unicorns go around all over the place advertising Dursley Pride and our events. They get up to a lot of fun antics too and you can see all that they get up to on their Facebook page 'Dursley Unicorns'. If you see them out in the wild, they are more than happy to have a photo with you. You can tag 'Dursley Unicorns' and 'Dursley Pride' on Facebook.



Events through the Year

Wow, what a year we have had!

- We started the year with a Dursley Pride v Pride in Gloucester skittles friendly.
- Our committees got together to meet and mingle.
- We had a stall in town for the King's Coronation Street Party where we sold refreshments.
- We supported our amazing local Drag Queens, Neon and Cake, in Drag Wars, a national drag competition, with Cake winning and becoming Gloucestershire's next drag superstar! So, we have an award-winning Drag Queen supporting Dursley Pride.
- We went along to Stroud Pride to support them; it was a lovely warm afternoon in the sun.
- We had a summer committee BBQ and team building afternoon, a very fun and casual afternoon.
- We launched our website in July, it's now fully up and running.
- Then, we had our big fundraiser, Dragsley on Tour, which was held in Stonehouse on 2nd September, this was a big event with great success.
- We have supported Bee Bailey a local transgender police officer whose uniform has been on display at the museum of Gloucester. She also did an interview that was broadcast on both ITV and BBC news about her being one of the first openly transgender police officers, and how now she travels throughout the UK and Europe educating police and influencing laws being made that involve LGBTQIA+ people. She is an amazing person and a great advocate, and we are very lucky to have her as an advisor.
- We had a stall at the Christmas Lights Switch on in town which was a very chilly but good night.
- Together Dursley Pride and Dursley Unicorns put together an advent box for The Quarry Chapel. Ours was called Unicorns at Christmas.
- To finish off 2023 we had a Christmas meal at Everest where we welcomed our new committee members and said goodbye to the few leaving us.



2024 so far

We have set up our Just Giving Page, which will hopefully help raise vital funds for this year's Pride. We also held our first Movie Night which was a free event where we all enjoyed watching Barbie.

June is Pride Month

Our Chair Tyler White presented four certificates of appreciation to Rednock, Arpers, Spring Villa and First Class Allsorts for being very LGBTQIA+ inclusive and supportive of Dursley Pride.

We worked with MPS Designs, a small local business, they created pens, keyrings, water bottles and QR codes for us, and they also made the Dursley Unicorns logo. We also worked with True Affection, a small local business, who helped make Dursley Pride candles.

Dursley Methodist Church announced they are marrying same sex couples. Dursley Tab and Community Food Hub is a very friendly and safe place for the LGBTQIA+ community and have supported Dursley Pride.

Dursley Pride 2023

This year's Pride was a great success with live music, Drag acts, comedy, stalls, food and a kid's area. There was something for everyone. Our town Mayor and local MP came along too. The parade was bigger and better than last year, with a lovely community aspect as the road and street was lined with people supporting us.



AGM

We held our AGM on 10th November at The Tab meeting rooms; we voted on having Co-Chairs rather than a Chair and Deputy. Our Co-Chairs are Michael Jones and Tyler White. We welcomed lots of new committee members and sadly said goodbye to a few.

We continue to work with the young people of Rednock and The Door.

We hope Dursley Pride 2024 will be amazing and bigger than last year. **So, just wait for what we have in mind for this August!**

DursleyPride.co.uk
FB and Insta Dursley Pride
FB Dursley Unicorns

Thank you.

Tyler White, Founder and Co-Chair
Michael Jones, Co-Chair
and all the Dursley Pride Committee

Dursley RFC

Our 70th Anniversary year has been another headline year for Dursley RFC. Plenty of Rugby has taken place, ranging from the continued excellent performances from the Men's 1st XV to the amazing enthusiasm and enjoyment shown by our Under 5s Minnows. We have over 350 registered players in our Mini and Youth Sections with the oldest players gradually feeding into senior Rugby via our all-to-important Colts team as they become old enough. We continue to field Men's and Women's teams and have well-organised Touch and Walking Rugby sections.

We have responded to the enthusiasm of our numerous members with a major investment in new land to provide more playing and training areas and to cut down the wear and tear on the pitches.

Inclusivity and player safety are deeply embedded in our core principles, and we are up to date with the RFU RugbySafe and Active bystander programs.

Letting the general public know about our activities is vital to our continued success and we are very grateful to contribute to the Annual Assembly. We also have a very strong social media presence and our officers have appeared on BBC Radio Gloucestershire on many occasions. Our Womens' Captain, Katie Thomson, was recently invited to No. 10 Downing Street as a representative of Ladies' Sport in Gloucestershire.

Over the last few years, the Club has expanded enormously and is now very much more than a simple Rugby Club. Stinchcombe Stragglers Cricket Club are part of the organisation now and hope to field a second XI this year as well as their Ladies' and youth sides. Dursley Running Club are also a part of the set-up with a running track and they host various events on the grounds including Schools' Cross-Country events with over 300 participants.

The aim is to make the greatest use of our facilities and we are pleased to be able to host regular meetings of the local Round Table and Dursley Slimming club.

As we all appreciate, utilities bills have become a major burden, and we were very pleased to be able to switch on our Solar power facility recently which we hope will reduce our running costs significantly. We have just inaugurated a new kitchen which has very pleasingly been awarded a 5* hygiene rating and will continue to provide snacks and meals to our players and visitors.

All of this takes a great deal of effort to run effectively, and we remain extremely dependent on the efforts of our Volunteers, several of whom have been nominated for RFU Volunteer awards. We are also very grateful to our Sponsors, without whom we would be forced to limit our activities and make them far more expensive for participants.

If you would like to know more about our activities please take a look at our website - <https://www.dursleyrfc.co.uk/>

Dursley Annual Assembly 2024 Dursley Tabernacle Community Food Hub Report

Who we are

In its infancy, Dursley Tabernacle URC was offered surplus food from Marks and Spencer which was distributed as gifts to a small number of families and individuals known to the church who were struggling or recovering from illness. Through the COVID pandemic, the team sometimes had surplus food so decided to approach local schools to identify others in need in the community. This generated a discussion within the church and the community and people came forward offering to volunteer with food collections and deliveries. In the early days the project supported 12 families.

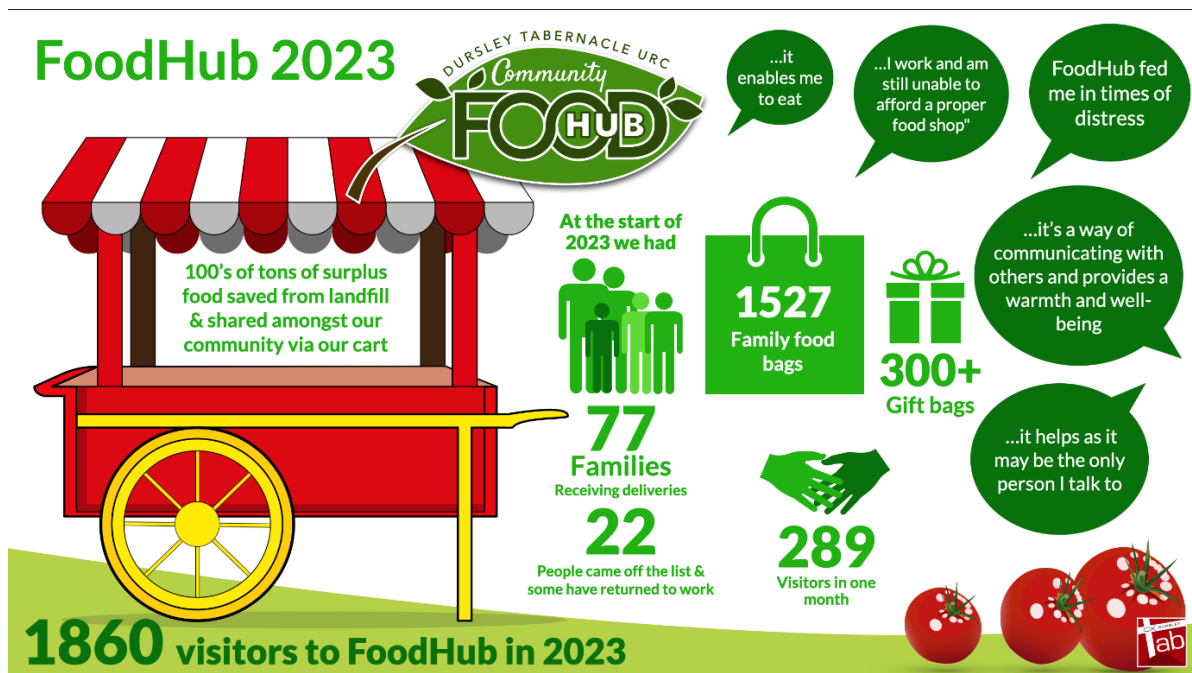
From this initial response to local need, the vision of the Community Food Hub was born. Through the COVID pandemic, the church sought to grow its Welfare Fund from members and it was decided by the church members to equip the reception area at the side of the church to form the Hub.

Over the last two years, we have successfully built strong relationships with all of our local supermarkets. Lidl donates surplus food daily and others donate on certain days through the week.

The red and yellow cart

Due to the increasing amount of surplus food donated, we needed a way of making the produce available outside of Hub opening hours. This was achieved through the generous donation of a market stall style cart which has sat prominently outside the church for the last year and has become something of a local landmark. The cart serves as a striking advert for the Hub on our social media streams whilst tackling another of our aims which is to reduce food waste, meeting one of our objectives as an Eco Church. Food supplied from the cart is for all to access but is also a tool in which people can donate their own surplus produce.

Our impact on the communities of Dursley and Cam today



Through the dedication of our volunteers, local supermarkets and individual donations we now support around 80 families regularly through food deliveries. We have a team of over 45 committed volunteers who help at least once a week ranging from church members and friends, members of other denominations in Dursley, non-church going members of the community, students from Rednock school, members of the local Lions Club and most encouragingly, some of our service users who have benefitted from our offer and want to give back. The volunteering experience has provided some with the chance to build up skills and confidence to equip them for employment. We are committed to offering an open-door policy, where our service users feel welcomed, safe and not judged because of the situation that they find themselves in.

Food Hub Coordinator

At the beginning of this year, we were delighted to welcome Naomi Skelton as our new coordinator. This was made possible through funding awarded to us by the National Lottery and Gloucestershire County Council Thriving Communities Fund. Alongside maintaining and building on our current offer, Naomi will be working on developing our links with schools, health visitors and other local organisations to further aid us in identifying those most in need.

Looking ahead in 2024

We want to further develop and train up our volunteers to equip them for their roles. We also want to develop meaningful relationships with our service users and help in moving them away from dependence on food hubs by developing our holistic offer to deal with the root causes of poverty and in so doing help their social wellbeing. Through Christians Against Poverty, we have recently trained three members of our team to become money coaches and plan to work with CAP to deliver budget management courses and offer debt counselling. We want to develop our links with the Citizens Advice Bureau and council housing officers who can give the correct advice on what help is available. We want to further develop our newly formed partnership with the Parent and Carers Alliance, who offer support and advocacy work for those with disabilities or those who have additional needs. Through the work of the Community Food Hub, we have become part of a wider network of hubs and pantries across the Stroud District. This is proving helpful to us as we can share knowledge, develop our offering as part of a wider community of food hubs and potentially share training and produce with others doing similar projects in the district.

We want to open up our facilities further to offer food preparation, cooking on a budget and healthy eating courses. We are able to offer limited pastoral support but the expansion of our opening hours, perhaps to include some Saturdays, could enable us to spend more time with individuals and families. We also want to be able to effectively signpost people where needed by inviting organisations to visit or run events alongside Hub opening hours to speak to service users and potentially train volunteers in different areas. Ultimately, we want to see these people lifted out of poverty and dependency to a place of self-dependency and self-confidence where they can reach their potential.

Dursley United Charity no. 248960

The objects of Dursley United Charity are the relief of poverty of persons resident in the parishes of Dursley, Cam, Stinchcombe and Uley. There is provision for 10 Trustees, five appointed from the Town and Parish Councils (two from Dursley and one each from Cam, Stinchcombe, and Uley), and Cam and Dursley Churches Together nominate two Trustees; two trustees can be co-opted.

During the course of 2023, the Trustees allocated grants to individuals and organisations who, at the discretion of the Trustees were in need of financial assistance.

Requests for hardship grants are usually referred by recognised third parties. The charity can also award grants in respect of educational needs.

Sue Creswick, Trustee



Festive Dursley – Report for Annual Assembly April 2024

Festive Dursley is made up of a team of dedicated volunteers and supported by Dursley Town Council. This group organises a range of events on behalf of and for the local community. In 2023, this included celebrations for the Kings Coronation on 6th May, a Summer Festival in July, Halloween Fun in October and a Christmas Lights Switch on event in November.

Community Events

On the 6th May Dursley held a **Coronation Day** to celebrate the crowning of King Charles III. The community were able to enjoy a live stream of the ceremony in St James the Great Church. There was live music, performances, and entertainment for all in the Marketplace.

On Saturday 8th July the town was packed with people enjoying the **Summer Festival**, despite the rain showers! There was a great selection of food and products to buy at the

Farmer's Market and street stalls. Live music was provided by the Rednock Swing Band and children enjoyed face painting and pebble decoration. There was something for everyone to appreciate on the day.

In the October school half-term holiday many children participated in two **Halloween Hunts** – one in the Town Centre and the other in Twinberrow Woods Sculpture and Play Trail. **Halloween Fun** was held in the Marketplace on Saturday 28th October – Parents and children enjoyed watching Amy Addles dancers perform a spooky dance and listening to Mel King reading ghostly stories.

The **Dursley Christmas Lights Switch On** event on 24th November 2023 was a fantastic evening enjoyed by hundreds of people who visited the town centre.

The crowds enjoyed a fun packed event full of market stalls, winter wonderland snow, Father Christmas grotto, sleigh, performances by live bands and dancers, fireworks, lights, and children's fairground rides.

Fund Raising

Traders, businesses, local charity groups, members of the council and resident volunteers all get involved to bring the community together for these local events. We really appreciate the support from you all.

The Committee of Festive Dursley raise money all year round to help pay for holding these events.

Festive Dursley is a team of dedicated volunteers, whose motto is '*Run by the Community for the Community*'. If you are interested in getting involved, please get in touch with the council office on 01453 547758 or visit the Festive Dursley Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/FestiveDursley/

You can also keep up to date with community events on Facebook.

This year, Festive Dursley is hosting Dursley's Summer Festival on Saturday 13th July, Halloween Fun on Saturday 26th October and the Christmas Lights Switch on event on Friday 29th November. www.facebook.com/FestiveDursley/

Councillor and Community Group Report 2023 - 2024



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[Outreach](#) [Contact](#) [Accessibility](#)



Welcome to GL11, a Community Hub for Cam & Dursley

"As soon as I walked in the door, I was made to feel welcome. It helped me, giving me confidence, self esteem, being part of a wonderful environment where everything is positive..."

— Ian, GL11 Volunteer.



[Privacy Policy](#)
[Safeguarding Policy](#)

GL11 Community Hub
Fairmead, Cam, Gloucestershire GL11 5JS.
01453 548530 / office@gl11.org.uk



For more information on GL11 Community Hub please visit <https://www.gl11.org.uk/>

Great Western Air Ambulance Charity

Great Western Air Ambulance Charity is hugely grateful for the continuing support of Dursley Town Council, helping to ensure we can be there for the town's residents when they need us most.

We are the local air ambulance and critical care service for the people of Gloucestershire, and proudly serve the residents of Dursley. Our specially trained team of doctors and paramedics are on call 365 days a year and can be on their way from our base in Almondsbury within 4 minutes of a call. With their specialist skills and equipment, our crew are called when a patient has a life-threatening injury or illness. From blood transfusions to roadside amputations, the crew can perform lifesaving interventions at the scene that would usually only be done in a hospital's emergency department.

With running costs of £4 million a year and each mission costing around £2,000, GWAAC rely almost entirely on the support of our community and the incredible fundraising efforts of our loyal supporters. It really is the generosity of local people that keeps us flying and ensures we are there for you and your loved ones when you need us the most.

Our Activity in Dursley

In 2023 we had our second busiest year ever. Our crew were called to 1,979 incidents, 573 of these within Gloucestershire. Sadly, the number of calls to children and young people rose to it's highest level at 15% of our missions.

It was our busiest ever year in Gloucestershire with those 573 calls, making it our busiest region in our area.

During the calendar year, we were tasked to 18 patients in the Dursley area. Amongst these we attended patients in cardiac arrest, patients who had fallen from height, and patients who had been involved in road traffic accidents. Thanks to your continued support, our crew were there for the residents of Dursley when they needed GWAAC most. Thank you for being there for us so that we can be there for others!

2023 Update

We also made several advances to improve patient care:

- **New kit bag system:** We developed and introduced a new bespoke kit bag system, revolutionising the way the crew carry and access the kit they need at the scene of an emergency. The innovative modular approach of the bags means that items are easier to access, saving valuable time on scene. When faced with a patient in a critical condition, every second matters, and the new bags can literally make the difference between life and death in the most critical cases.
- **Clinical education:** Our clinicians strive to be at the top of their game, ensuring they bring the most up-to-date knowledge and cutting edge practices to our patients. We support crew members through advanced training, and in 2023 three specialist paramedics completed their Masters level degrees in Critical Care this Summer, and one passed the prestigious Diploma in Immediate Medical Care.
- **Training other emergency responders:** sharing our crew's expertise with other emergency responders can have a huge impact on the treatment of critical patients. In 2023 we began running training sessions for land ambulance paramedics and firefighters – giving them the skills to treat critical conditions they rarely see, and making sure they know what to do to prepare the patient for our crew's arrival – saving precious minutes which can save lives.

Empowering our communities to save lives across our region

- **Teaching lifesaving skills:** We taught 10,429 school students and community members what to do when somebody has a cardiac arrest or stab wound. Our Heartstarters training gives people the skills and confidence to step in with lifesaving CPR (manual heart compressions) and defibrillator use, keeping the patient alive until our crew arrives.
- **Installing defibrillators:** We helped 48 groups install a public access defibrillator where it is most needed in their community and gave them basic training in its use. We are working with a further 45 groups who aim to have defibrillators installed in their localities and 'rescue-ready' soon in 2024.

Supporting our former patients

Many of our patients get back in touch when they are well enough; meeting the crew who treated them, and understanding more about what happened to them often helps with their recovery journey. Keith was one of our former patients from Gloucestershire who contacted us in 2023.

Just a few days after celebrating his 60th birthday, Keith suffered a cardiac arrest. He was fit, healthy and playing his usual Friday night five-a-side football game in Cheltenham when he collapsed. Luckily, there was a defibrillator on site and an off-duty firefighter who was trained in CPR. The incredible efforts of the firefighter, and his teammates kept Keith alive until our crew arrived. They gave him strong pain killers and stabilised him, then took him safely to Bristol Royal Infirmary, the nearest heart specialist centre.

Keith has gone on to make a full recovery and visited our base this year to meet the crew again and thank them. *"To be able to sit here and carry on with life as normal – I owe a great deal to GWAAC and the guys who acted quickly,"* he said.

Thank you

We rely entirely on voluntary donations, and without supporters like Dursley Town Council we would not be able to run this service for the people in Gloucestershire. On behalf of the charity team, the crew, and all our patients, thank you for helping save lives.



Our mission is to improve and offer support to families with children under the age of 5 when they need it the most. We believe passionately in early intervention and a strengths-based approach to supporting families to overcome any challenges they face and for parents to be supported to be the best parents they can be. We offer holistic support to families for as long as is necessary, ensuring that we have time to build up trust with them in order to walk alongside them, supporting them to make the positive changes necessary to deal with the challenges that they face and to create the best start in life for their children.

Our work supports parents to grow in confidence and self-esteem, strengthens their relationships with their children, improves their mental health and wellbeing and widens their links with their local community.

We have strong working relationships with professionals working in the area such as health visitors, midwives, and social care professionals.

Home-Start volunteers visit families within their own homes once week, supporting parents on a one-to-one basis. We also provide antenatal, postnatal and perinatal groups to further offer support to families in a group setting in various locations including Dursley, in an effort to reach as many parents as possible. Many parents are experiencing and coping with situations as diverse as isolation, bereavement, multiple births, illness, disability, experiencing domestic abuse, drug dependence or who are just finding parenting a struggle and need a little extra support. As we all know parenting is not always easy!

To provide this non-judgement practical and emotional support our volunteers commit to attending an 8-week recruitment training course programme. The training course covers topics such as First Aid, Safeguarding, Listening Skills, we also arrange for professional guest speakers to attend and provide information around related issues such as bereavement and domestic abuse.

We aim to run at least two 8 weeks face to face programmes each year and have recently introduced a “hybrid” programme which consists of 4 face to face sessions and training modules to complete at home. All of our training creates volunteering opportunities for local people to strengthen community cohesion to better support local families within the community.

Since April 2023 to date we have supported **33 Dursley families** via a home visiting volunteer. We ran a Best-Start postnatal group at Kingshill **10 mums and 10 babies plus 1 grandad attended.**

The cost to train one volunteer (based on 12 volunteers attending an 8 week face to face training course) is **£503.00**

Overview of ALL Family Needs Supported

	CL ID if filtered	Average First Score	Average Last Score	Change	No. of Families*	Improved
Overall View of families during April 23-March 24						
A1 - How is your physical health?	15007	3.14	3.39	0.24	75	29
A2 - How is your mental health?		2.55	3.27	0.71	75	43
A3 - Do you feel isolated?		2.54	3.20	0.66	73	41
A4 - How is your confidence and self esteem?		2.37	3.09	0.72	72	40
A5 - Do any of your relationships cause you stress?		2.70	3.35	0.65	52	26
B6 - How confident do you feel as a parent?		3.60	3.87	0.27	75	29
B7 - Do you feel you have enough parenting knowledge and skills?		3.95	4.11	0.16	67	21
B8 - Are you able to spend quality time with each of your children?		3.32	3.58	0.26	61	32
C9 - How would you score your relationship with each of your children?		4.38	4.56	0.19	75	25
C10 - How would you score your child/children's physical health?		4.39	4.39	0.00	75	23
C11 - How would you score your child/children's emotional wellbeing?		3.63	4.05	0.42	73	31
D12 - Do you have any financial issues?		3.33	3.47	0.14	66	21
D13 - How well do you manage the day-to-day running of the house		3.18	3.61	0.43	68	29
D14 - How are you managing with several children under 5?		3.11	3.42	0.32	27	13
D15 - How would you score your current use of local services?		4.11	3.92	-0.19	41	11
Total Mean		3.35	3.69	0.33	75	53

* With initial and review/end score

Kingshill House Report for the Annual Assembly 23/04/2024

Introduction

Kingshill House is a charity set up in 1996 for the purpose of providing an arts and creative health centre for the local community and to bring in visitors from further afield to the area. We are a small team of three (plus casual and volunteer helpers), with a board of ten directors/ trustees.

Current Position

The Covid pandemic and subsequent years were, as for many other venues, a struggle for the Charity. With the support of the local town, parish, and district councils, Kingshill House has now moved forward into a more comfortable financial position with partnerships, projects, events, classes, courses, workshops, and exhibitions.

The Kingshill House team would like to extend their gratitude to the town, parish and district councils for their continued support.

The community are invited to subscribe to our monthly newsletter and provide feedback and suggestions on what they would like to see more (or less) of by emailing us at admin@kingshillhouse.org.uk

Best wishes

The Kingshill House Team

TWINBERROW FOUNDATION (Registered Charity No. 301524)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS – 2023/24

Trustee: Dursley Town Council

Correspondent: Mr John Kay, Clerk to the Trustees, Twinberrow Foundation,
Dursley Town Council, Jacob's House, Castle Street, Dursley, Glos GL11 4BS
Tel 01453 547758

www.dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Members of Twinberrow Foundation during the financial year 2023/24:

Mr S Ackroyd
Mrs D Cornell
Mrs S Creswick
Mr K Eales
Mr P Hayes
Mr D Horn
Ms T Kinnison
Ms M-J Stennett
Mrs L V Patrick
Mr M Patrick
Mr J Rubin
Ms D Savvidou
Dr A Stennett
Mr T Stride
Mrs W Thomas
Mrs A Woodward
Mr T White

Property:

- (1) Freehold woodlands known as Bolton and Gravel Pit Woods in the Parish of Dursley, having an area of 24 acres or thereabouts (original endowment 1933),
- (2) Enclosure 1595 in the Parish of Dursley (purchased 1983),
- (3) Enclosure 9600 in the Parish of Dursley having an area of 1.065 acres or thereabouts (purchased 1985) and
- (4) Enclosure 1500 in the Parish of Dursley (purchased 1994).
- (5) Freehold woodlands known as Hermitage Woodland, in the parish of Dursley, having an area of 36.82 acres (Purchased 2023)

Purpose:

To be kept as natural woodland and not to be built on and used solely for the recreation of the inhabitants of the Parish of Dursley and the neighbourhood thereof.

Application of income:

- (i) After payment of any expenses of administration, the net income of the Foundation shall be applied by the Foundation in the maintenance of the property used for the purposes of the Foundation and the provision of facilities and amenities for recreation, including the acquisition of additional property for the Foundation, for the inhabitants of the Parish of Dursley and the neighbourhood thereof.

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- (ii) (ii) Insofar as, in the opinion of the Foundation, the net income of the Foundation cannot be usefully and beneficially applied in accordance with the provisions of the last foregoing sub-clause, it may be applied for such charitable purposes for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Dursley and the neighbourhood thereof as the Foundation may determine.

Activities during the year:

The Annual meeting of the Twinberrow Foundation was held on 23rd January 2024 with other meetings held on 4th April 2023, 4th July 2023 and 5th September 2023.

Alex Stennett was re-elected Chair of the Foundation and Terri Kinnison re-elected Vice-Chair at the annual meeting.

Routine inspections carried out by Woodland Manager and urgent maintenance works carried out. This included substantial urgent tree works to the value of £12.4k.

At the meeting of 5th September the Foundation resolved to buy Hermitage Woodland, the purchase was completed on the 29th November 2023. The total expenditure including fees was £144.2k.

The Sculpture Trail has seen new exhibits added and ongoing maintenance of existing ones carried out. The Foundation has invested a total of £3.5k towards the trail.

The Foundation received a bequest of £405k from a member of the community in 2024, the late Mr Martin Genner. The Foundation took the decision to invest a total of £240k with the Public Sector Deposit Fund and have received a total of £5.7k in interest payments in 2023/24.

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TWINBERROW FOUNDATION ACCOUNTS 1/4/2023 - 31/3/2024

INCOME		
<u>2022/23</u>		<u>2023/24</u>
£0.00	Bank Interest	£5,693.64
£0.00	Sale of wood	£0.00
£3,000.00	Grant/Bequest	£405,928.00
£3,000.00	Total Income	£411,621.64
 EXPENDITURE		
£ 95.09	Maintenance	£12,432.00
£ 455.48	Insurance	£6,09.28
£ 0.00	Purchase of Woodland	£144,280.19
£ 0.00	Sculpture Trail	£3,595.80
£ 550.57	Total Expenditure	£160,917.27
£2,449.43	Difference	£250,704.37

BALANCE SHEET @ 31 March 2024

£9,278.82	Lloyds Bank Acc	£11,728.25
	<i>represented by</i>	
£9,278.82	Accumulated Fund	£11,728.25
£0.00	Investment Fund	£240,000.00
£2,449.43	Surplus at Year End	£10,704.37
£11,728.25		£22,432.62
