



Dovecotes TMO



Newsletter Winter 2019

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News From The Chair

Christmas is one of our most cherished holidays, in Ireland Christmas blessings focus on good luck, health, prosperity and harmony inside the family. Christmas is also a time for reflection, to give thanks to those we hold close and blessings to all who interact with us. I would like to give thanks to the board and staff of the TMO, we have experienced a period of change over the past year and, hopefully our community has been rewarded with a more active and progressive organisation.



Over the next 12 months we want to focus on improving how we communicate with our residents. In the spring we will be sending a questionnaire to every household to ask you what you want for the estate to learn how we, as your local housing service provider can deliver on your expectations.

At Dovecotes we know that the winter months can be tough and lonely for some members of our community. We want to change that. Throughout January we will be holding weekly coffee mornings and a foodbank service for those struggling financially. We are not doing this alone. We are working in partnership with our contractors and the City Council to deliver projects like this to you.

I join the staff and board in wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

Joan Curtis



DOVECOTES TMO CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS



MONDAY 23RD DECEMBER 2019 OPEN 9.00 - 4.00

**TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER 2019 TO
WEDNESDAY 1ST JANUARY 2020 CLOSED**

THURSDAY 2ND JANUARY 2020 OPEN 9.00 - 4.00

FRIDAY 3RD JANUARY 2020 OPEN 9.00 - 3.00

**OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD WE WILL BE
OPERATING AN EMERGENCY ONLY REPAIRS SERVICE.
FOR REPAIRS BETWEEN 8AM AND 6PM PLEASE CALL 01902
556 789. FOR REPAIRS BETWEEN 6PM AND 8AM PLEASE
CALL THE EMERGENCY OUT OF HOURS TEAM ON 01902
552 999**

Don't get left out in the cold.....



Pay your rent this Christmas

Board Member Focus



Andrew Slater

Andrew Slater is one of the founding members of the TMO and an active campaigner for tenants' rights locally and nationally. As an executive member of the National Federation of Tenant Management Organisations, Wolverhampton Federation of Tenant Associations and former member of Wolverhampton Homes' Management Board Andrew is a valued and respected Board Member of Dovecotes TMO.

'It has been almost thirty years that I have been involved in tenant activism, starting with the Dovecotes TRA in 1991 and now holding executive positions in the Wolverhampton Federation of Tenant Associations and the National Federation of Tenant Management Organisations. I have a real passion for empowering tenants and for improving the environment where I live.

I remember the day we moved to Dovecotes; it was a chilly Saturday morning in March 1978. Yvonne, my wife was pregnant with our second child and we had been living in a bedsit in Clark Road with our son Karl. Nine months previous we had been called to the Civic by the Housing Officer and shown a plan of the estate and asked to pick a plot that would be our future home. Looking back, I realise how lucky we were to be given that opportunity.

The estate in 1978 was an entirely different place to what it is now. There were no roads just dirt tracks and half-built houses. I recall when Yvonne went into labour, I had to run off the estate to use the payphone then wait for the ambulance to direct them back to our house.

I have very fond memories of my children growing up on the estate, we were part of an amazing community and still are. The kids were always out on the grass playing football even the little ones, Dovecotes has always felt safe to me. We all interacted with one another, there were no racial boundaries or other divides, one community working and living together.

In 1991 the then Dovecotes TRA were giving out EC beef. I got in touch with them and went along to the flat in Grangefield Close where they were based at the time. I got talking to Joan, knew that I could help them to make a difference to the community I held so dearly and so I joined the committee. As time went on, I became more and more involved and interested in tenants' rights. Fed up with the bureaucracy of the council I was thrilled to be part of the options appraisal for the estate to become tenant managed and, here we are thirteen years on and still going strong.

When I think about my reasons for being part of the board I feel no different to how I did when I started all those years ago. I want Dovecotes to remain one of the best estates in the city, one that appreciates every person, keeps the community safe and fights for those who cannot fight for themselves'.

Andrew is a co-opted member of our board and will hold his position until our next AGM in September 2020. If you would like to know more about being part of our management board you can do this by calling us on 01902 552780 or emailing dovecotestmo1@gmail.com. You can also speak to our board members on either a Tuesday or Friday between 10-1pm in our board room.

Dovecotes Is Combatting Hunger this January

When it comes to January, a time when we realise that the magic of Christmas is over for another year, its dark, cold, rainy and there's not a huge amount to look forward to, many household's also experience financial difficulty. Not being able to afford a hot meal can affect us physically and mentally, we want to change that at Dovecotes.

In partnership with our contractors and the City of Wolverhampton Council, Dovecotes will offer food parcels for those in need throughout January. If you require a parcel please contact the TMO confidentially on 01902 552 780 and speak to one of our staff. We will try to provide as many parcels as we can for those most in need throughout the month.



This January our management board will be hosting weekly coffee mornings every Wednesday between 10.00 and 12.00.

Residents are welcome to come along for a drink, snack and a chat. We want to help combat loneliness and isolation so if you or someone you know could benefit please come along and join us.

Wednesdays
10.00 - 12.00

Bushbury, Low Hill, Fallings Park & Oxley

Newsletter

November 2019 Edition

(Reporting on crime between September-October 2019)



Team Priorities

Oxley

Off Road Motorbikes A number of reports have been made over the last 12 months in relation to off-road motorbikes in public open spaces across the Oxley neighbourhood ward.

The team continue to gather intelligence around this and increase patrols around this seasonal trend.

It is important that we receive as much information as possible about those responsible. If you spot any, please provide us with full details of the vehicle (size, colour, markings, registration number, etc.) along with description of rider/driver (age, gender, height, build, clothing, etc.)

Please gather as much information as possible in relation to any sightings in relation to this and pass the information to us via our **online Web Chat** by visiting www.west-midlands.police.uk or telephoning 101. Please do not email this directly to us our mailbox is not monitored 24/7.

Drug Dealing The team continues to gather intelligence in relation to the distribution of cannabis and class "A" drugs on the Dovecotes and Rakegate Estates.

If you have any information regarding drugs offences then please contact via our **online Web Chat** by visiting www.west-midlands.police.uk or telephoning 101. Alternatively you can contact Crime Stoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Speeding The team continues to receive complaints of speeding across the ward however we have been carrying out extensive work to tackle this and raise awareness about this issue.

We have continued to conduct 'Community Speed Watch' initiatives and are always keen to hear from community members who would like to get involved. Please contact us via bushbury@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk if you would like to get involved.

We have also been working with our colleagues with the 'Road Harm Reduction Team' who have been assisting us with enforceable operations resulting in numerous motorists being prosecuted.

Bushbury North

Anti-social Behaviour Wood Lane and The Woodbine public house This is a historical issue that we feel has subsided in recent months after officers have been proactively targeting individuals responsible. This has resulted in us issuing a number civil interventions to those responsible in order to restrict their behaviour within this area.

Bushbury South and Low Hill

Speeding on Bushbury Lane, Second and Fourth Avenue Speeding has been a raised as a community concern for a number of months however we feel these issues have decreased following a number of 'Community Speed Watch' initiatives. The most recent operations, both held within 'rush-hour' have resulted in no motorists being found to be travelling in excess of the speed limit.

Fallings Park

Long Knowle park, Blackwood Avenue We have recently seen an increase in reported Anti-Social Behaviour in and around the park on the Long Knowle estate, mainly in the park area - we swiftly conducted additional patrols and identified a number of youths that were potentially responsible. We have now spoken to a number of them in partnerships with the City of Wolverhampton Council and Wolverhampton Homes. This has resulted in a number of the youths being issued with 'Acceptable Behaviour Contracts' which could ultimately impact on further civil interventions being taken against them.

Crime Figures

September 2019

September 2019 = The amount of crimes that have been reported to us in that month.

YTD = Crimes reported to us from 01 September 2019 until 30 September 2019

Difference = Crimes reported to us in comparison to last year's total figures.

Bushbury Ward				Low Hill Ward			
	Sept 2019	Year to date	Difference		Sept 2019	Year to date	Difference
Burglary Residential	6	21	-20	Burglary Residential	7	48	+14
Burglary Business	0	3	-6	Burglary Business	4	32	-7
Robbery	2	11	-1	Robbery	2	16	+1
Criminal Damage	10	36	-1	Criminal Damage	10	79	+3
Theft from Vehicle	6	33	+11	Theft from Vehicle	4	26	-15
Theft of Vehicle	5	17	+5	Theft of Vehicle	7	24	-2
Shop Theft	9	28	-10	Shop Theft	5	26	-46
Total (YTD)	69	399	+1.5%	Total (YTD)	139	779	-1.4%

Fallings Park				Oxley Ward			
	Sept 2019	Year to date	Difference		Sept 2019	Year to date	Difference
Burglary Residential	8	33	-9	Burglary Residential	7	24	-
Burglary Business	0	5	-15	Burglary Business	0	2	-3
Robbery	0	6	-6	Robbery	2	9	-7
Criminal Damage	8	68	+20	Criminal Damage	7	41	+5
Theft from Vehicle	5	31	-	Theft from Vehicle	1	9	-11
Theft of Vehicle	5	19	+4	Theft of Vehicle	1	11	-1
Shop Theft	2	6	-20	Shop Theft	2	34	+3
Total (YTD)	79	431	-2.9%	Total (YTD)	50	392	-0.5%



Street Watch is a community-led initiative based on street patrols carried out by members of the public with no police powers.

Groups are managed by a volunteer co-ordinator who keeps a volunteer list and provides advice, guidance and support in consultation with the local police.

Volunteers patrol in pairs and register each patrol on a website. The neighbourhood policing team can look at the website before the patrols take place. If volunteers spot suspicious activity they should report it to the police but not get involved. Members of Street Watch must be 18 years or older.

If you would like to register your interest to participate in Street Watch please email streetwatch@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk or bushbury@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

Contact us



bushbury@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk



101 extension 871 6018 / 6028



@LowHillWMP

Dovecotes TMO Christmas Grotto

This year Santa Claus returned to Dovecotes TMO to meet the wonderful children from our estate. Over 200 children attended the event funded by Dovecotes TMO, the City of Wolverhampton Council and our contractors.



Tickets for our Christmas Raffle will be on sale at the TMO office until 1pm on Friday 20th December 2019. We have Morrisons vouchers, Beautique vouchers, hampers, wine and many more. Entry is £1 for a chance to win!

We would like to thank Premier Stores,
Pendeford Fish Bar, Morrisons, Beautique and
our contractors for their donations to our raffle

Fly tipping

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www.shopatipper.com

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

This year Dovecotes TMO arranged a trip to the Black Country Museum for 50 of our residents. In 2020 we will be bringing you more days out and community events. Be sure to follow us on Facebook @dovecotestmo or visit our website at www.dovecotestmo.com for news on our up and coming events.

We would like to wish all our residents a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

If you require this document in large print or an alternative format please contact Dovecotes TMO Housing Office on 01902 552 780