

# Dovecotes TMO

## A Message From The Board

Welcome everyone to our autumn newsletter. We have some exciting updates for you so please take a look and see what is happening on your estate.

We love engagement, its what tenant management organisations are all about. Our newsletters are a good opportunity for us to engage with Dovecotes residents that we may not see at our events or interact with as tenants. We try to provide lots of information you need to know as well as news from our partners so that you feel informed. We hope that you enjoy reading this newsletter and, if you have any idea's for future editions or would like to share information with the rest of the estate please contact us.

We were pleased to see so many of you at our AGM this September and would like to thank our members for their continued commitment. This was an exciting meeting for us and the first to be held onsite at our office and in our new community space.

We know its only November but with this being our last newsletter of 2023 we would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and prosperous new year.

### *Dovecotes Management Board*

#### OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Monday, Tuesday &  
Friday

9:00 - 4:00

Closed for lunch  
1:00-2:00

#### CONTACT US



01902 552780

#### WRITE TO US



Dovecotes TMO,  
Ryefield, Pendeford,  
WV81UD

Dovecotes.TMO@wolverhampton.gov.uk



**Santa is coming  
to Dovecotes**



**Friendship  
Fridays are Back**



**Ian's Do's &  
Don'ts**



**Dovecotes  
Christmas Trip**

## **Dovecotes TMO Christmas Opening Hours**

Monday 18th December 9:00-4:00

Tuesday 19th December 9:00-4:00

Wednesday, Thursday CLOSED

Friday 22nd December 9:00 - 1:00

Our office will re-open Tuesday 2nd  
January 2024 at 9am

**Emergency repairs only Friday 22nd  
December to Tuesday 2nd January  
2024**

## **Dovecotes TMO Sit and Knit**

Are you a skilled knitter?

Do you want to learn how to knit?

Why not join us on a Tuesday at 11:30 -  
12:30 for our sit and knit session.

We are looking for patterns and knitting  
materials and will be making items for the  
Neonatal Unit at New Cross Hospital. If you  
have any to donate please bring them to  
our office during opening hours.

## **Household Support Fund**

**Applications for the Household Support Fund are open. We are  
currently prioritising applicants who have not received a Cost of  
Living payment or had help from the fund in the past.**

**If you have experienced a crisis and need support please complete an  
online application by entering this link into your internet browser  
[www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7M259FP](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7M259FP)**

# **Friendship Fridays Return This Winter**



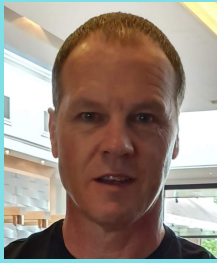
**Friday 1st December 2023  
to Friday 1st March 2024.  
Drop in service 12:00 -  
2:00 first come first served**

After the success of our winter Friendship Friday project last year our board has decided to provide hot meals to those who need them this winter.

Beginning Friday 1st December 2023 we will be serving a hot meal for our tenants and residents every Friday up to 1st March 2024.

If you find that you are struggling or want to meet with like minded others in a safe and warm environment please join us on a Friday between 12:00 - 2:00.

We do not charge for meals but, if you can afford it donations are always welcome.



## Ian's Do's and Don'ts

DO - If you are happy with my repair, share your experience by putting a review on Google or Facebook

DON'T - Ignore loose taps or little leaks. Water has a habit of taking you by surprise and creating havoc in the home as well as causing damp and mould.

REMEMBER - Clean the area where a repair is needed. I want to get in, get the job done and move on to the next so you can get on with your day

## Letters to Santa



We have a very special post box at Dovecotes TMO where children's letters to Santa are sent by direct mail to Mr Claus who always writes back.

To deliver your letter to Santa visit our office from **Friday 1st December 2023** and post your letter before **Wednesday 20th December 2023**.

# Updates from our AGM

We would like to thank our members who attended the TMO's Annual General Meeting this September. We hope that you enjoyed seeing how our office is changing and learning more about us and how we performed in the past year.

We are happy to announce that Tracy Searle was elected as our new Owner Occupier Board Member. Tracy brings with her a plethora of skills and experience to the board and occupies a vital role on our board of private owner representation. Our current board members are; Ann Webb (Chair) Stuart Harrison (Vice Chair) Andrew Slater (Secretary) Ste Webb (Treasurer) Janet Smith, Glenford Clarke, Sarah Harrison, Debbie Bentley and Tracy Searle.

Our board are responsible for protecting our members interests, establishing policies for management, oversight of Dovecotes TMO, and making decisions about important issues the organisation faces.

Our Mission;

**'Together we will listen to our community to provide a safe, supportive, accessible and inclusive environment where people want to live'**

We still have 1 vacant post for an owner occupier to join our board. If you would like to learn more about how our board functions, have an issue to raise with them or want to join our board you can visit the office on Tuesday's between 10:30 - 12:00, email [dovecotestmo1@gmail.com](mailto:dovecotestmo1@gmail.com) or call 01902 552780



# Book Your Place For Our Birmingham Christmas German Market Trip

£3



The Birmingham German Christmas market is the largest market outside of Germany or Austria offering visitors a large range of traditional goods and gifts and a selection of tempting food and drink. Pretzels, schnitzels, bratwursts, and roasted almonds will tempt your tastebuds, all of which can be washed down with gluhwein, weissbier (wheat beer), or tasty hot chocolate.

In the last year our reserve funds performed well meaning we have earned an extra £2000 of income. We are committed to investing this money into our community with our board deciding to host one last trip for 2023. The coach travel will be based on a heavily subsidised rate with tickets charged at £3 per person for our members or £10 per family of 4 (2 adults & 2 children under 11's) and £10 per person for those not living on the estate. Book now to reserve your ticket by visiting our office during office hours. Cash only.

## Friday 1st December 2023 4pm-8pm £3pp



**DAILY XMAS RAFFLE**

**COST OF LIVING SUPPORT**

# Christmas

## Pop up Shop

Come along for free advice, support and handy tips.

**Wed 22-Fri 24 November**  
10.30am to 5.30pm

**MANDER COMMUNITY HUB,**  
LOWER MALL, MANDER CENTRE

**WEDNESDAY 22 Nov**  
Keep Warm, Stay Safe

**THURSDAY 23 Nov**  
Festive Foods for Less

**FRIDAY 24 Nov**  
Shop Smart, Avoid Debt

**CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL**



**WEDNESDAY 22 Nov**  
Keep Warm, Stay Safe

**COST OF LIVING SUPPORT**

# Christmas

## Pop up Shop

**Day 1**  
Support with energy efficiency and free energy saving measures, water bills, help with debt, fire prevention, safe drinking / gambling, mental health support, goodnight project plus much more...

**Day 2**  
Support from community chefs (free food samples), recipes for affordable xmas dinner, how to make most of leftovers, taste tests, making foodie xmas gifts, provision of free dental packs and free community shop memberships

**THURSDAY 23 Nov**  
Festive Foods for Less

**DAILY XMAS RAFFLE**

**FRIDAY 24 Nov**  
Shop Smart, Avoid Debt

**Day 3**  
**Shop Smart, Avoid Debt** – challenge us to find your xmas presents for the best price.  
**Scam and counterfeit goods awareness** – spot the scam and find the fake.  
**xmas clothes swap shop** – bring a xmas jumper or party outfit and swap it for another free of charge. Plus support and information from the Credit Union, Baby Bank and Adult Education.

**cost of living support**

Additional support is also available at [wolverhampton.gov.uk/costofliving](http://wolverhampton.gov.uk/costofliving) or call us on 01902 290241 (option 2). We're here to help.



# Dovecotes Raises £481 for Macmillan

We want to say thank you to all those who attended our Macmillan Coffee Morning.

We also want to say a special thanks to ...

- ✿ Our bakers who made some wonderful sweet treats
- ✿ Morrison's who donated tea, coffee, snacks and chocolate's
- ✿ The very talented 'Kayla Made' who donated items for our raffle
- ✿ Our board and staff who make us proud to be part of Dovecotes



Dovecotes Primary school offers Terrific for Twos and 30 hours extended childcare places

Available now for eligible families

We offer:

- 15 hours free childcare for eligible families for 2 year olds!
- 15 hours free childcare for all 3 year olds
- 30 hours free childcare for eligible families for 3 year olds!
- Early Education for your child helping to give your child a good grounding for their future schooling.
- Fully qualified staff led by a Qualified Teacher. Your child will have activities tailored to their needs and interests!
- Support with Toilet Training, learning to talk, social skills, early reading and early number work.
- If your child attends Terrific for Twos they will have priority access to our Nursery with children moving seamlessly into the Nursery class.

Please pop into the school office or phone 01902 558284 for more information and to find out whether you are eligible!

## Visiting All Tenants Getting to Know Tenants Better

In April this year Dovecotes TMO Housing Management Officers began a project to visit every tenant living in Dovecotes. Visiting tenants periodically is an example of good tenancy management but also allows the tenant to raise any concerns they may have regarding their tenancy.

During the visit the Housing Management Officer will assess the internal and external condition of the property as well as asking who lives in there to cross check this with the data we hold. It is important that all tenants keep their tenancy records up to date with any changes to contact details provided to the TMO without delay.

The officers visiting tenants are not repairs inspectors and tenants should be reporting repairs as and when they occur in the home. If you have a repair or are worried about damp, mould and condensation you should call us on 01902 552780.

Tenants should make every attempt to be available for their appointment, this is a mandatory visit and failure to provide access may result in legal action.

Find out all you need to know about repairs by visiting our website [www.dovecotestmo.com](http://www.dovecotestmo.com) or scan the QR code with your mobile device to be taken straight to our dedicated repairs page with lots of useful guides and videos.



To use open the camera on your smart phone and place the lens over the picture and follow the prompt.



# **We are Pedalling towards Community Well-Being: Introducing the Pendeford Community Bike Hub**



The Pendeford Community Bike Hub is an exciting new initiative hosted at the local Pendeford Seventh Day Adventist Church to bring positive change and inspire a healthier, more connected community. With a focus on promoting community well-being, this bike hub is set to become the heart of the Pendeford vibrant and inclusive spirit.

The Pendeford Community Bike Hub goes beyond just cycling; it encapsulates the values of physical fitness, sustainable transportation, and spiritual upliftment. The bike hub creates a powerful platform for community engagement and outreach through this unique blend, aiming to touch lives and make a lasting impact.

## **Repair, Learn, and Empower: A Hub for All**

The bike hub offers a space where individuals of all ages and backgrounds can access bike repair services, learning opportunities, and social connections. Friendly volunteers and the bike hub manager are ready to assist community members in repairing their bikes, empowering them with safe cycling knowledge to help develop skills to ride with confidence.

However, it doesn't stop there. The bike hub hosts educational programmes on bike safety, maintenance, and holistic well-being. Through these programmes, community members can enhance their knowledge, strengthen their confidence, and experience personal growth.

## **Riding Together, Spreading Joy**

The Pendeford Community Bike Hub is not just about individual well-being; it's about creating a sense of unity and joy within the community. Regular group rides, charity events, and community outreach activities allow participants to bond, explore the beauty of Pendeford, and ride with other like-minded individuals.

## **Recent and present events**

The Pendeford Community Bike Hub recently hosted a highly successful event sponsored by Cycling UK known as the "Big Bike Revival." This event aimed to promote cycling, encourage community engagement, and raise awareness about the benefits of cycling for both physical and mental health. The Pendeford Community Bike Hub's involvement in the "Big Bike Revival" proved to be a resounding success, achieving its objectives of promoting cycling, engaging the community, and raising awareness about the

benefits of cycling. The event not only encouraged physical activity but also brought people together, fostering a sense of unity within the Pendeford community.

The positive impact of the Big Bike Revival is expected to endure, with many participants expressing their intent to continue cycling and to spread the message of the event's importance. The Pendeford Community Bike Hub is committed to building on this success and continuing its efforts to make cycling an integral part of community life by providing free learn-to-ride sessions every Sunday from 12 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and leading Hub—a group ride from 1:30 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Join us and embrace the Pendeford Community Bike Hub, which is a testament to the power of unity, well-being, and the transformative impact on the community.

## **Appealing for Support: Join the Journey**

To make the Pendeford Community Bike Hub a resounding success, we are contacting local businesses and community members for support. By sponsoring this transformative initiative, you have the opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of the Pendeford residents and contribute to the growth and well-being of our community.

Your support will not only provide valuable resources for the bike hub's operations, but it will also demonstrate your commitment to the people of Pendeford and showcase your dedication to social responsibility. As a sponsor, your business will enjoy widespread exposure and recognition, with your name and logo prominently displayed on our website, social media platforms, and marketing materials.

In addition, we are now able to offer free pop-up Dr Bike and fix events on behalf of our main sponsor CYCLING UK to other joining sponsors outside your place of business to help drive foot traffic.

We invite you to partner with us to help aid our mission, and be part of this remarkable journey towards a healthier, connected, and enriched Pendeford community.

## **Get Involved Today**

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities or explore how you can contribute to the Pendeford Community Bike Hub, don't hesitate to get in touch with us at [pendefordbikehub@gmail.com](mailto:pendefordbikehub@gmail.com). Together, let's pedal towards a brighter future where cycling for health and well-being will touch the lives of every Pendeford resident.

*\*\*The Pendeford Community Bike Hub welcomes community members of all backgrounds and religious affiliations to participate in its programmes and activities.  
"Pedalling with confidence, connecting with community".*

# Updates From Local Councillors

How lovely to start our part of the newsletter positively, with congratulations to Dovecotes TMO staff and Board for their outstanding work, resulting in the award of the Kitemark, presented at the National Federation of Tenant Management Associations Conference in August. Well done to all concerned, working so hard for their tenants.

Dovecotes Primary are also to be congratulated on achieving their “Good” rating in their recent Ofsted inspection. Their motto of “spread your wings, learn new things, fly as high as you can” has clearly been embraced by all involved with the school, as the pupils are described as “demonstrating highly positive attitudes to learning”, being “polite and helpful” and enjoying “very positive relationships between one another, and with other adults” They obviously have good role models in the school and in the wider community. Three pupils from the school have also had their winning artwork for the Bug Busters campaign put on display at the Art Gallery, well done!

Councillors Alan Butt, Barbara McGarrity and I have all been very warmly welcomed by the people we have met on the estate. It has been particularly cheering to see the well-kept gardens, hanging baskets and containers around the area, and again congratulations to the prize winners, in a competition in which everyone benefits by improving the estate for all.

This community spirit was embraced at the Macmillan coffee morning, which raised vital funds for such an important cause, as well as providing a lovely atmosphere served alongside the coffee and cakes! And a very well attended TMO AGM kept us all updated on work completed and priorities that lie ahead.

I enjoyed attending the Dove Strengthening Families event held in August. This is one of eight hubs around the city that provide support and activities for families with children 0 – 18. With support for parenting, housing, benefits, employment and training, along with “stay and play” sessions, I found it informative and helpful, as did my two-year-old grandson, who enjoyed the wide range of activities on offer, along with the ice cream at the event!

It is a pleasure to be able to report on so many positives in the area. We would like to earmark some of our ward funds to support community events and projects, particularly for young people in the area; to provide suitable activities that engage and encourage young people to become well-rounded, responsible adults. However, we recognise that there is still work to be done in the future. We are looking at issues of ASB, fly tipping and off-road motorbikes and we will work together with all agencies to find ways to support residents reporting these concerns to us. Our contact details are below:

Councillor Alan Butt

07971327492

[Alan.Butt@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:Alan.Butt@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

Councillor Jane Francis

07973664666

[Jane.Francis@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:Jane.Francis@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

Councillor Barbara McGarrity

07811 752725

[Barbara.McGarrity@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:Barbara.McGarrity@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

And may we wish all residents a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## The Dovecotes IT Crowd

Can you confidently set up an email address or use the internet? If you answered no this isn't anything to be worried about because we are here to help. Dovecotes TMO has partnered with Wolves Online to offer those living in Dovecotes the opportunity to become digitally included. Not only will we be offering support with using IT we also have a small number of devices we can gift to residents to help them get and stay online.

**If you would like more information or would like to apply for a device please contact Amie Merry on 01902 552780. Our first learning session will take place on Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 11am at our office. To book please contact the office.**



\*That's 3,593,000 hours of online browsing

DigitalWolves

# Christmas at Dovecotes



**Thursday 21st December 2023 1:00 - 6:00pm**

## Santa's Cafe

Our Christmas cafe is back, we will be selling lots of warm and cold treats including sandwiches, cakes, samosa's, mince pies and mini Christmas treats for you to take away

## Christmas Fete

Are you a small trader living in Dovecotes? Do you have lots of festive themed items to sell at our Christmas Event?

Book your slot before space runs out

**You must book in advance for your child to see Santa. Our Grotto is open from 1pm - 6pm and you will be allocated a 5 minute slot. Each child visiting Santa will receive a gift, sweet treat and time to speak to the big man himself.**

**Tickets are charged at £1 per child and must be paid in cash at time of booking. Bookings for those who do not live on the estate will be charged the full cost of £5 per child. Proof of residency is required when booking.**

Name		Membership No	
Address		Preferred Time slot	
Please insert the name and gender of all children wishing to see Santa. Please note that we restrict our grotto to children under 11 years*			
Name Girl / Boy / Other		Age	
Name Girl / Boy / Other		Age	
Name Girl / Boy / Other		Age	
Name Girl / Boy / Other		Age	

\*we will make reasonable adjustment for any child under the age of 18 who is recognised by the Equality Act 2010. Please speak to a member of staff when making your booking