

# Local News

## Working together for a better community

**Tenants in Telford have been working with the Trust and other partner agencies to tidy up their neighbourhoods and make their local communities even nicer areas to live in.**

Residents of Dawley Bank took part in a community litterpick following concerns about rubbish and litter from residents. Residents' concerns were reported to the Lawley and Overdale Police and Communities Together (PACT) group at a recent meeting. As a result Darren Blackburn, PACT member and local resident, advertised a short litter picking session on the Big Tidy Up website and promoted it locally with flyers and posters in Dawley.

Litter grabbing equipment was kindly loaned from the environmental maintenance team at Telford & Wrekin Council and refuse bags were supplied by the Big Tidy Up campaign.

This event really helped to tidy up the area and resolve any residents' concerns about litter.



## WAG's look around new build development in Dawley

**Local area tenant representatives were recently invited to view Balmoral Court, a new build development of 20 apartments on King Street in Dawley.**

The Dawley WAG (West Area Group) members learnt about the development from the regular meetings they have with the Trust's Dawley team, where they discuss how they can work more closely together on issues which affect local residents.

The Trust has five units in the development for shared ownership and rental and the WAGs were keen to see the properties and look at the quality of the workmanship.

"It's been very useful for the WAG members to be able to see the properties during the development stage as it allows them to see that we invest in properties in the local area as well as the wider Shropshire community," Jo Robertson, Dawley Housing Team Leader said.

WAG member Trish Weston of Malinslee said: "The visit showed how The Wrekin Housing Trust encourages tenant discussion and involvement. It's good to see that the Trust is investing in the local community by being involved in new developments in Telford".

## Local youngsters help to improve play area in Aqueduct



**Residents of Aqueduct were treated to some sunshine and a taste of the Hawaiian life, thanks to a themed fun day organised by a local Aqueduct Youth Group, to celebrate a completion of work at their local playing fields.**

The group, who were celebrating the upgrading of a multi-use games area at the playing field, wanted to showcase the new facilities to the residents of Aqueduct. Along with

Community Support Officer Sarah Robinson, the group was able to host their own fun day to celebrate the games area being upgraded by Telford & Wrekin Council.

Sarah Robinson, CSO for the Aqueduct area said: "We are thrilled at the outcome of this project. It has taken a lot of hard work and commitment from the young people and I am really

proud of all of them. They have shown that young people can really make a positive difference to local communities".

Joanne Robertson, from The Wrekin Housing Trust said: "The Trust and its partners are committed to helping communities grow and improve the areas around them. We are very impressed with the attitudes of the young people who have helped out with this project. Not only have they managed to raise the funds for the Celebration Day itself through a Youth Opportunities Bid, they have also shown a great deal of commitment and maturity that is well beyond their years."

The Aqueduct Youth Engagement Group is currently looking for adults to volunteer and help support the group with their future activities. Please contact Sarah Robinson at the Dawley and Hamlets Local Police Team on **0300 333 3000** if you would like more information.

## Estate Walkabouts

Your local areas have seen a number of improvements as a result of recent walkabouts, with residents providing an insight into local issues and highlighting any improvements that might benefit the community. Jo Robertson, Housing Team Leader said, "It's great to see local residents taking a keen interest in their community and

**working with partner agencies to improve where they live."**

Resident support is key to the success of these initiatives, and further successes have come as a result of a community group in the area showing fantastic enthusiasm and establishing their own walkabouts.



The **Chiltern Gardens and Purbeckdale community group** have set up two estate walkabouts since forming in July this year. Residents have identified underpasses which flood during bad weather and graffiti which hasn't been removed. They were also able to discuss their concerns regarding underage drinking with the Community Support Officer who provided advice on how to report any issues.

Area	Location	Meeting point	Date	Time
Malinslee		Main junction to Stone Row with perimeter road	9th Feb	10am
Malinslee	Coachwell Close and Royals	Main junction - Prince Charles Crescent with the perimeter road	16th Feb	10am
Dawley	Lancaster Avenue area	Corner of Lancaster Avenue / The Hollow	2nd Mar	10am
Dawley	High Street & surrounding areas	Meet at the Dawley shop	9th Mar	10am
Dawley	Webb Crescent area	Outside Portley corner flats	15th Dec	10am
Dawley	Webb Crescent area	Outside Portley corner flats	16th Mar	10am

## What's happening in your area!