

# Newsletter



## **Gardening & Ecology Updates**

#### **Gardening Update**

The gardening group are delighted to see an improvement in the weather - it has been a long soggy cold spring. Despite this the fruit trees and bushes on the estate are looking great and may well have excellent crops.

Elsewhere we have been aiming to rejuvenate some of the raised beds - these are mainly the ones that had lots of lavender that has now become very leggy and untidy. We are removing the old plants, topping up and improving the soil and planting hebes, euonymous, russian sage, ice plants, penstemon and rosemary - with most of these plants grown from cuttings in the greenhouse.

From time to time we have found some splendid plants abandoned on the estate, these have been replanted and they are doing well - particularly the hydrangeas. If you have plants you don't want, don't throw them away, we might be able to find a home for them.

#### **Ecology Update**

Spring has sprung, and the estate is buzzing with life! After a quiet winter, the birds are back, filling the air with their songs and nesting throughout the area. We're thrilled to report a significant increase in reed warblers this year. Kudos to Steve for capturing a stunning photo of these charming birds! Our February and March frog and toad safaris were a hit, despite not finding any tadpoles. Participants had a blast exploring the pond and discovering a variety of other wildlife. Although rain dampened our spirits and cancelled our first bat walk, our second attempt was a roaring success! Common pipistrelles put on a spectacular show, delighting both residents and nature enthusiasts.

Rain also put a damper on our wildflower experiment. On Easter Sunday, we enthusiastically cleared a patch of grass and sowed seeds, hoping for a burst of colour.

continued overleaf...

GARDENING & ECOLOGY UPDATES

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This is the hydrangea we found dumped on the estate, we transported it in the inevitable abandoned trolley we also found. Hydrangea was planted and doing well and trolley returned to Sainsbury's via Trolleywise App!



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Unfortunately, none sprouted - likely due to the heavy rain that evening, which must have washed most of the seeds away.

Despite this setback, our spirits remain high, and we're eager to try again soon!

Stay tuned for more exciting wildlife adventures - check out the events section for all the details!

#### **Litter Picks**

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in the litter picks this year. It was wonderful to see some new faces join our regulars!



15th June \* 20th July \* 17th August

Join us anytime between 20 Couture Grove 10 AM & 12 PM

(via back gate on Eskimo Court)

We provide everything you need Cancelled if it's raining





## **Events** on Houndwood



Thursday, June 20, 2024

All documents available at

www.houndwoodcommunity.org

7:30pm Online



Use this QR code to join





## In our Community...

#### What does the Parish Council do?

Street Parish Council has sixteen elected councillors who volunteer their time to endeavour to improve things for the people of Street. There are four members of staff who carry out actions that are decided by the councillors. Various contractors carry out works as required to Merriman Park or hanging baskets in the high street for example.



Residents are encouraged to attend meetings of the council. There is a monthly full council meeting usually on third Tuesday of the month. The Planning Advisory Committee reviews planning applications usually on the second Tuesday of the month. The Policy and Finance Committee meets every six weeks or so. Actual timings and locations of meetings are displayed on Parish Noticeboards and Website. There are several other committees and working groups that address specific things such as staffing or events in Street. Please don't hesitate to contact your Parish Council if you have any questions. https://street-pc.gov.uk/

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