

Horsehay Horticultural Society

*President: Mr John Anderson
Vice-President: Mr Steve Lawton
Chairman: Mr Simon James
Vice-Chairman: Mr A Barnett
Treasurer: Mrs Lesley Worthington
Show Secretary: Mrs Deborah Tovey*



To: [REDACTED] Chair of T & WC Community Governance Review Committee,

I am emailing to you as the [REDACTED] Horsehay Horticultural Society, organisers of the Horsehay Flower, Vegetable, and Craft Show. This much-loved annual event is held at Horsehay Village Hall and is open to the entire local community. It has been proudly supported by Dawley Hamlets Parish Council for many years.

As a committee, we are deeply concerned about the proposal to abolish Dawley Hamlets Parish Council. Our show, which has run for over 150 years, would simply not survive without their ongoing support. The loss of such a long-standing village event would be a significant blow not only to Horsehay but to the wider community as well.

Once common across the Telford area, local shows like ours are now rare. We are one of the few that remain, and it is only through community effort and the invaluable support of the Parish Council that we are able to continue. Dawley Hamlets Parish Council understands the importance of community involvement and actively encourages events like ours.

Abolishing the Parish Council risks losing vital local knowledge, historical context, and community spirit—all of which are essential for fostering engagement and local identity. Their support enables democratic participation at a grassroots level and ensures that the voices of our residents are heard and respected.

We strongly urge those responsible for this review to reconsider the serious implications of their proposal. Removing the Parish Council would not only erode local identity but also set a concerning precedent for the future of community-led governance in Telford. Local democracy should be strengthened, not dismantled.

Dawley Hamlets Parish Council deserves to be retained. It is an essential part of our community's voice and heritage, and its abolition would be a significant and deeply regrettable loss.

We, as the Horsehay Horticultural Society Committee, firmly oppose this proposal. We call for a solution that protects local representation, preserves our community's identity, and upholds the principles of democratic engagement.

Please do not abolish Dawley Hamlets Parish Council.

Yours sincerely,

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