



Dudley Federation

of Tenants and Residents Associations

Newsletter February 2015

DFTRA Update

It was with regret that we had to cancel our January General meeting, all information that would have been given out at the meeting was posted to members and our next meeting will go ahead as usual (Thursday 26th March).

Board members have continued to be present at partnership meetings and we will be looking at more involvement at these meetings from our TRA representatives. If you would like to attend a partnership meeting with a Dudley Federation board member please let us know.

We would also ask you to let us know if you have any issues that you feel we should be raising at our Participation Liaison meetings, Senior Management meetings or at any Partnership meetings by calling, emailing or writing to us - contact information is [overleaf](#).

Why not join the DFTRA board?

We are looking for new members to join our team at DFTRA.

Being part of the board of directors at Dudley Federation gives you a chance to work with like-minded people, as well as allowing an insight into the workings of the local authority with the ability to have an input in influencing decisions.

You will experience the satisfaction of resolving issues and increase your knowledge and understanding of the local community.

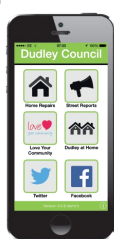
Time commitments are not fixed, you can do as much or as little as you wish. If you choose to, you can attend partnership meetings as a DFTRA representative, get involved in assisting groups with issues or just attend one or two board meetings a month.

To apply or arrange a visit to see what we do, get in touch. We look forward to working with you!

Dudley Council app

Did you know that there is a Dudley Council app?

The app can be used to contact Dudley Council and report issues in your home or area, as well as to find other information.



Find out how to download it here:

<http://www.dudley.gov.uk/report-it/mobile-app/>




First Aid training

Are you interested in doing a basic first aid training course or do you have a first aid certificate that is running out soon?

If so, get in touch with the Participation Development Team on **01384 815168**.

Would you like free tenants and residents associations meeting alerts?

Keep up to date on meetings and events in your area by:

-  Signing up for emails at www.dudley.gov.uk/housingalerts
-  Texting your surname, house number and postcode to **07797 870352**
e.g. Brookes, 10, DY1 1HF (initial text will only cost your standard text rate)
-  Or by ringing on **01384 815168** to sign up to the service

Social Media update

If you've liked some of the TRAs on Facebook you'll know that they are sharing some great information.

For a full list of Tenants and Residents Associations on Facebook go to:

www.dfta.org.uk/?p=1821

The 12 groups currently on Facebook have over 600 likes combined, which means a huge increase in the amount of people who could see and share your information and meeting dates!

As always, if you are interested in setting up a Facebook page for your group please let us or the Participation Team (01384 815 168) know.

Q&A with... Ellowes Hall & Area TRA

Q: How long has the TRA been active?

A: We have been together for 5 years.

Q: How are things going with the group?

A: We feel that as a TRA we are improving every year. We have become very confident in what we are achieving and are constantly growing and by becoming involved with other community groups which can only make our TRA stronger.



Ellowes Hall & Area Committee members at a clean up.

Q: Have you had any times that you found difficult?

A: We have experienced difficult times with numbers decreasing at our meetings.

Q: If so, how did the committee get through these times?

A: Despite this issue we have not been deterred and as a group we have pulled together to make it a success, we have promoted ourselves rather than rely on others, we have not become despondent and this has made us more determined. We have applied through funding for notice boards to be erected in our area which will give us the opportunity to promote meetings and other important information. We have introduced our [Facebook page](#) and are very near to completing and publishing our own web page.

Q: What are your plans for the future?

A: Our plans for the future are quite simple we will be working more closely with our community and community groups, to look to see what funding opportunities there is to help to improve our area and build a stronger, healthy community. We will be introducing more litter picks to our area which builds our relationship with the younger people in our area which includes our scouts, cubs and our local cadets and hopefully this year our boys and girls brigade will come on board.

Q: Any other comments?

- A:**
- We have a good mixture in our group with different strengths and experiences which we pull on to achieve our success.
 - We are always willing to try something new.
 - We work very closely with other groups in our community and have representatives from our committee on various groups.
 - We work very closely with our local police and have an excellent working relationship with them.

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