



The Darwell Area Conservation Society

savedarwell@gmail.com * savedarwell.wordpress.com

PARISH ASSEMBLY REPORT 2020

DACS exists to protect, celebrate and enjoy the special part of the High Weald AONB which has the Darwell Reservoir and Stream as its spine, from Dallington to Mountfield.

On the **planning** front, our success in our first three or four years helped buy us a couple of quiet-ish years. DACS scrutinises all local planning applications and we have fought our corner on a few over the last twelve months, successfully — for now.

On the **conservation** front, we have been planning two major and very important initiatives, both arguably the most important contributions to our landscape we, or anyone else, have attempted. However, we have had to put both projects on hold due to Covid-19 before we even got to launch stage. So, frustratingly, the message for now has to be watch this space.

Finally, DACS's remit includes the **understanding, celebration and enjoyment** of our landscape. Last year I reported that I had led my final strolls and walks locally, after 21 landscape walks and 10 history strolls. In time-honoured tradition, I was lured out of retirement for one more year, largely in support of the 900th anniversary celebrations for All Saints Church, Mountfield, but again these had to be cancelled due to the crisis.

In just seven years, DACS has achieved so much. We have fought planning battles, organised walks and strolls, produced a number of publications, organised talks and lectures, created a real profile to give our voice some authority, and reached out to hundreds of people. Above all, we've spoken up for our special part of the AONB.

New members are always welcome as the size of our membership is vital part of our credentials. For more information, to swap ideas, or just to chat, please contact us.

Peter Miles

Chairman

Darwell Area Conservation Society

01580 880 614

savedarwell@gmail.com