

CIVIC AMENITIES COMMITTEE

DATE: 25th May 2023
REPORT OF: Waterfowl Wardens/Events, Projects and Tourism Officer
SUBJECT: Dawlish Waterfowl Wardens/Outside Services update

PART I

Recommendation:

To receive and note the report.

1. UPDATE

- The three older cygnets were moved to new homes in March following their adventure across the A379 to Coastguards. This was done for their safety and security. Two were rehomed to a location which opens to the public under the Open Gardens Scheme and one to a private location the Council has used in the past.
- The weir gates have been replaced however Bert the male cygnet has managed to get through on one occasion and was returned by BAM.
- The cygnets are developing red beaks.
- Lots of ducklings are being hatched in the aviary and some will be sold on in the future.
- The wardens will be giving a guided talk to some nursery children and teachers next week and are booked in for a walk as part of the walking festival in September.
- Black Swan Cam – <https://blackswan.cam/> continues to run and is now commercially sponsored. The council's original contribution to the development of the camera is acknowledged of working with Dawlish Beach Cams. The views are still streamed through the Facebook page of the waterfowl at intervals. Neil Salter of Dawlish Beach Cams continues to be a volunteer contributor with others to the waterfowl Facebook page which continues to grow with over 4,400 followers.

2. RECOMMENDATION

To receive and note the report.

Don Phillips, Senior Waterfowl Warden
Angie Weatherhead, Events, Projects & Tourism Officer