

A Parish Poll has been called for by Electors in the Parish to decide the future of The Manor House.

**YOUR  
VOTE  
COUNTS**

## THE MANOR HOUSE, DAWLISH



The Manor House is Grade II Listed and is home to Dawlish Town Council. It is also open for hire by the public. This beautiful building is nearly two hundred years old and was never designed to be used as a community centre: disabled access is limited

and it is difficult to incorporate modern facilities where Grade II restrictions apply. When repairs are needed, specialist craftsmen often have to be employed at considerable cost, where an ordinary householder would be able to choose a cheaper alternative.

# PARISH POLL

What you need to know about the Parish Poll on 4th March 2010

**Who can Vote?** Any person on the Electoral Roll for Dawlish can take part in the Parish Poll. This includes Electors in Cofton, Cockwood, Holcombe and Dawlish Warren as well as the town of Dawlish. *Find out if you are a registered elector by calling Electoral Services on 01626 361101 or the Town Council on 01626 863388.*

**Where can I Vote?** The Poll will take place on **THURSDAY 4TH MARCH 2010** **between the hours of 4.00p.m. and 9.00p.m.** at the following locations:

- The Manor House, Old Town Street.
- Holcombe Village Hall, Holcombe
- Cofton Village Hall, Cockwood

**What will I be voting for?** The question you will be asked is:

*“Should the Town Council be required to keep the Manor House as Council offices and for the benefit and use of the parish of Dawlish, and commit to a full programme of repairs and maintenance? Answer: Yes or No.”*

**How should I vote?** To help you decide on whether you should vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’ some

### *Some facts for you:*

- The Manor House is open for 84 hours per week and used for 43.75 hours per week. Even when the building is empty it still has to be heated and cleaned and the rates and water charges paid.
- Last year it cost £70,150 to keep the Manor House open. Income was £40,542.54.

***The short-fall of £29,607.46 was paid for entirely from Dawlish Council Tax.***

- The building is used by 19 groups who use the building weekly (for a maximum of 4 hours at a time), 9 who use it on a monthly basis and 31 other groups who use the building from time to time.



***Dawlish tax payers have subsidised these user groups to the tune of £29,600 before any maintenance or improvements are done.***



***The Town Council has already stated it will carry out a study of the Manor House to explore the best ways to manage the building and the best way forward for both Council Tax payers and users of the facilities.***

### **If you vote ‘No’:**

- you will be saving the Council Tax payers of Dawlish from unlimited expenditure on the Manor House for an unlimited time.
- You will be ensuring that your elected Town Councillors are able to make the best use of the money you pay in your Council Tax for the facilities provided for the whole of the Parish of Dawlish and
- you will be enabling the town of Dawlish to move forward into the 21st century by providing first class facilities for future generations as part of the town regeneration.

### **If you vote ‘Yes’**

- As a Council Tax payer you will have voted to fund all the repairs and renovations to The Manor House even though you may not use it. The question asked in the Parish Poll **does not set any limitations on the amount you will be asked to pay** and **does not set any limitation on how long you will have to keep on paying** for repairs and maintenance to the building.