**Hawking and falconry report for the Britannia Square area – w/b 27 April 2020**

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| Tuesday 28 April – am session * A hawk was flown; all gulls in the immediate area lifted and 8 gulls came in from elsewhere to investigate.
* Upon arrival pairs were seen at Number 46 and in the vicinity of Numbers 10 and 11 Britannia Square.
* No gulls were seen frequenting 28/29.
* The Numbers 10/11 pair did not return during the two-hour session.
* The gulls at 46 had returned by the end of the session.
* A dead gull was found in the garden of Number 48; the gull was not taken by the hawk.
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| Friday 1 May – session began at 1:30 pm* Three pairs of gulls were present upon arrival – on or around Numbers 46, 47/48 and on the parapet of Number 13 Britannia Square.
* A Harris’ hawk was flown.
* All resident pairs lifted. Again the new pair at Number 46 was particularly reluctant to move and quickly returned; the 47/48 pair behaved in a similar fashion.
* The hawk attracted around 10 gulls in from elsewhere.
* No gulls were seen at 28/29.
* At the end of the session, gulls had returned to Numbers 13, 46 and 47/48 Britannia Square.
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| CommentPleasingly, Stephenson and Albany Terraces appear to have remained clear of persistent gull activity. The pair at Numbers 28/29 seems to have moved elsewhere. The resident gull pairs now appear to total three; this includes one recently arrived pair (46) and two longer term pairs (47/48) and the ‘terrace pair’ (10 – 14). Given the much larger population of gulls not far away in The Tything, the raptor flights appear to have kept gull numbers to a minimum in the BSRA area. The frequency of visits by the hawker/falconer has now been reduced to two per week.  |

Gordon Dugan

**Technical Officer (Gull Control)**

**Worcestershire Regulatory Services on behalf of Worcester City Council**

