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Weather report

Though some parts of the country had an exceptionally wet October, this part of the West Midlands was only marginally wetter than usual, with 64mm (2.35in) of rain.

Of this total 9mm (0.37in) fell in a little over nine hours on October 16, the wettest day, in a month with rain on 19 days of which 13 were "wet" and six "very wet".

The month was, however, cool and dull, with all temperatures below expectation. These ranged from 15.8C (60F) on the third, to minus 0.7C (31F) on the 24th, the latter date also producing a grass minimum of minus 3.9C (25F).

In all, four ground frosts and one air frost occurred, both about normal for October.

Winds were predominantly westerly averaging seven mph, though gale force gusts were recorded on the 17th.

Pressure has also been well below average, only the final week showing any signs of a recovery when we had the best weather in an otherwise dull, damp, cool and rather uninspiring month.