

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
RECREATION AND LEISURE
Wednesday 4th April 2022

Officer: Mike Cox – Outdoor Recreation and Asset Manager

FISHERIES

Purpose of Report

To update the Council the work of Shrewsbury Town Fisheries

UPDATE

Mousecroft Pool.

The previous grant application for three platforms was successful and the three fishing platforms have been installed, a recent application for a further three platforms was successful, these will be installed later in the year.

Some additional work has been done on some overgrown willows and the branches have been chipped on site and used on pathways.

The pool bank work that was completed two years ago appears to be working well, with no significant loss of water during the dry spells.

Reports are coming back that this fishery is fishing extremely well, with the fish being of good quality.

Monkmoor Fishery.

It is planned for the stone chippings to be laid within the next couple of weeks. The relationship with the farmer continues to grow and he has agreed in future years to level the lane prior to each season commencing.

Oxon Pool.

No problems recently encountered. Membership of this facility is proving extremely popular with 78 members signed up to fish this specialist facility.

Reabrook fishery.

Bailiffs are working in conjunction with Severn Trent to map all the outflows along the Rea brook. When clearing vegetation, pipes are being exposed that are not recorded on any plans, so it is a useful exercise to pin point where pollution is entering the water course, so immediate action can be taken to prevent reoccurrence.

Signs along the fishery have not yet been installed due to other volunteer commitments. It is programmed to be done over the summer holidays.

Radbrook Pool.

Nothing further to report.

The pool is regularly patrolled and we have a good relationship with the residents who live immediately around the pool.

County Ground and Quarry

All the pegs have been inspected and repaired. The next job will be to strim the grass around the pegs to ensure safe access. This will be done closer to the start of the fishing season.

Emstrey Fishery.

Unfortunately grant applications for improvements to the Emstrey fishery were not successful, and so the fisheries team will have to decide whether improvements to the car park are the priority or 5 replacement fishing pegs.

Belvidere Fishery.

Grant application for the three platforms has been submitted but unfortunately we were unsuccessful.

Sydney Avenue.

Grants have been submitted for the four replacement platforms, unfortunately we were unsuccessful. The existing platforms will be made safe and they will be replaced in due course when funding allows.

Family Academy.

Sessions will be commencing on the 28th May then there will be sessions on the 23rd July, 20th August and 17th September. The events have been supported by the Angling Trust and additional sessions may be introduced between these dates.

Water Quality.

The water quality of the fisheries is a concern and a hot topic at the moment. The bailiffs are working in conjunction with the Angling trust to study the quality of the river as part of the Water Quality Monitoring Network. Training has taken place with four of our bailiffs so they will be able to test the quality on a regular basis, this equipment will also allow them to monitor the quality of the pools, so if oxygen levels are low (during periods of prolonged sunshine), action can be taken.

The data is not replacing statutory monitoring undertaken by the environment agency or water companies or to challenge their data, but to fill gaps in data collection so local networks can have a more informed understanding of the water quality and so it may show patterns in water quality, trends and over time potential problem sites or regions.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the report is noted