Agenda No

7

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL
COMMUNITIES & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
Wednesday 14th October 2026

Officer: Ian Thorpe. Commercial, Markets and Events Manager

EVENTS IN THE QUARRY

Purpose of Report

To update the Committee with the events held and scheduled within the Quarry this year.

List of Events for 2026

Event	Provisional Date/s
February	
MILLION HOURS GAMING BUS	Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th
March	
SHROPSHIRE ROCK CHOIR	Saturday 28th
FUN FAIR - STOKES	Wednesday 25th to April 12th – Operating dates 27th to 11th
April	
HKL ENGLAND	Friday 3rd to Friday 10th
RUN THE DISTANCE – SEVERN HOSPICE EASTER DASH	Saturday 4th
WREKIN ORIENTEERING	Sunday 5th
HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY	Monday 6th
PEDAL IN THE PARK	Saturday 11th
May	
LOOPFEST 2026 (L)	Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd
RUN THE DISTANCE - 10K POINT TO POINT	Sunday 3rd
MECHANICAL ORGAN FESTIVAL	Saturday 2nd to Sunday 3rd
SHREWSBURY REGATTA	Saturday 9th to Sunday 10th
PEDAL IN THE PARK	Saturday 9th
WELLINGTON BRASS BAND	Sunday 10th
CLEOBURY MORTIMER CONCERT BRASS	Saturday 16th

RUN THE DISTANCE - 50K	Saturday 16th
SPECCY SAXES (SAX QUARTET)	Sunday 17th
STOKES POP UP	Sunday 24th & Monday 25th
SHREWSBURY MORRIS DANCERS	Sunday 24th
BRASS BUTTONS	Sunday 24th
SHREWSBURY MALE VOICE CHOIR	Saturday 30th
WEM JUBILEE BAND	Sunday 31st
RACE FOR LIFE 2026 – CANCER RESEARCH UK	Sunday 31st
June	
ZIPPOS CIRCUS	Saturday 6th to Monday 15th – Operating dates 11th to 15th
BLACKWELL CONCERT BAND	Saturday 6th
SHREWSBURY CONCERT BAND	Sunday 7th
BELLE VUE ARTS FESTIVAL	Saturday 6th to Sunday 21st
PEDAL IN THE PARK	Saturday 13th
PORTHYWAEN SILVER BAND	Saturday 13th
SALOPIAN BRASS	Sunday 14th
SHROPSHIRE MHS – 24 HOUR	Friday 19th to Saturday 20th
SHROPSHIRE YOUTH STAY SAFE DAY	Wednesday 24th
SHREWSBURY SCHOOL BUMPING RACES	Thursday 25th to Saturday 27th
SHREWSBURY FOOD FESTIVAL (L)	Saturday 27th to Sunday 28th
July	
SHROPSHIRE MUSIC SERVICE	Saturday 4th
SHREWSBURY BRASS BAND	Sunday 5th
SHREWSBURY 10K – ULTIMATE FITNESS	Sunday 5th
PEDAL IN THE PARK	Saturday 11th
SHREWSBURY ARK COMMUNITY WALK	Saturday 11th
IDENTITY SCHOOL OF DANCE & CATCHLIGHTS	Saturday 11th
MOVEMENT CENTRE CHARITY 5K	Sunday 12th
SHROPSHIRE BRASS ENSEMBLE	Sunday 12th
SHREWSBURY MALE VOICE	Saturday 18th

CHOIR	
SEVERN HOSPICE DRAGON BOAT RACING	Saturday 18th to Sunday 19th
WALK FOR DEMENTIA	Sunday 19th
TELFORD CONCERT BAND	Sunday 19th
RUM & REGGAE FESTIVAL (L)	Saturday 25th
CHESTER BLUE COAT	Sunday 26th
August	
RACE DURARE HEALTH AND FITNESS	Saturday 1st
BROAD BAND	Sunday 2nd
LPS PICNIC IN THE PARK	Saturday 8th
PEDAL IN THE PARK	Saturday 8th
ALVELEY VILLAGE BAND	Saturday 8th
LUDLOW CONCERT BAND	Sunday 9th
KICKSTARS FREE TASTER SESSION	Wednesday 12th
CHURCH STRETTON ACCORDIAN BAND	Saturday 15th
UKULELE PICNIC (FOR CROHN'S & COLITIS)	Sunday 16th
ROCKSCHOOL SHREWSBURY	Monday 17th
THE BAND OF THE MERCIAN REGIMENT	Saturday 22nd
WHITCHURCH BRASS BAND	Sunday 23rd
HOPE HOUSE TEDDY BEAR RUN UKAC	Sunday 23rd
FUN FAIR - JENNINGS	Monday 24th to Monday 31st – Operating dates 26th to 31st
September	
MAYORS CHARITY EVENT	Friday 4th
SHROPSHIRE SHUFFLERS SEVERN BRIDGES 10K	Sunday 6th
MACMILLAN CORACLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS	Friday 11th
PEDAL IN THE PARK	Saturday 12th
SHREWSBURY LEAGUE OF FRIENDS	Saturday 12th
RUN THE DISTANCE - 50K	Saturday 19th
ALZHEIMERS RESEARCH MEMORY WALK	Saturday 19th

HILLS FORD STAGES RALLY	Saturday 19th to Sunday 20th
SHREWSBURY HALF MARATHON	Sunday 27th
October	
OKTOBERFEST (L)	Friday 2nd to Saturday 3rd
UKAC HALLOWEEN RUN	Saturday 24th
November	
REMEMBRANCE PARADE	Sunday 8th
UKAC CHRISTMAS JUMPER RUN	Saturday 28th
December	
UKAC NYE Run	Thursday 31st

(L) - **Licensable Event** – Indicates an event that is delivered in accordance with the conditions of the Premises Licence held by Shrewsbury Town Council.

The final large event of the year took place over the first weekend in October as Shropshire Festivals brought their annual Oktoberfest to the main arena. Although the Friday night was quieter than in previous years, the longer Saturday was extremely busy providing the organisers with another successful festival. It was also pleasing to note that the event was extremely well organised and passed off without incident. As ever the Shropshire Festivals team were considerate of the park infrastructure and handed the site back in excellent condition.

As the main event season draws to a close it is a time to reflect on the year as a whole and look forward to 2027 with a degree of real excitement. 2026 will have seen a total of 75 separate events take place in The Quarry with an eclectic mix ranging from small community gatherings through to large annual festivals. The park has held up well throughout the year through a combination of careful management of the set up and take down process, the vigilance of STC Quarry staff and the dry weather.

There have been no major incidents or concerns raised with regards to event audiences throughout the year, whilst we have received notifications of praise for how considerate people were when leaving the site and for the friendly atmosphere within the events themselves. There were a handful of complaints raised about noise levels at a couple of events, although subsequent investigations found everything remained comfortably within the requirements of the Premises Licence. However, we have continued to work collaboratively both with Shropshire Council's Environmental Protection Team and representatives of the Town Centre Residents Association to see what additional noise management mitigation measures can be put in place.

Attention now turns to next year's calendar and how we can continue to build on the success of 2026. The good news is that all of the regular large event organisers have indicated their intention to return with the two newcomers this year, Loopfest and Rum & Reggae, hoping to add additional days to their schedules. We are also continuing to receive regular enquiries to hold new events, with a couple of small/medium sized festivals now moving toward the draft proposal stage.

August has been deliberately left free of any large event in recent years whilst the Shropshire Horticultural Society considered its position over the Flower Show. However, with a return looking increasingly unlikely, talks have continued to be held in the background with a number of large operators who are keen to bring something exciting to Shrewsbury. These talks have progressed significantly with one highly respected organisation who are very close to agreeing to an event series which will be of huge benefit to the town both culturally and economically.

At the other end of the size scale plans are already underway for the 'Summer of Music' 2027 season following on from the huge success this year with 24 separate performances held in the beautiful Quarry Bandstand. The sunny weather certainly helped to play a big part in attracting plenty of people and all of the bands and musicians have expressed strong interest to return again.

The end of the event season also provides a window of opportunity for planned maintenance work to be carried out, with particular attention to be given to improving the surface drainage and grass coverage at the bottom of the main arena and area below the bandstand.

Officers are also monitoring the on-going programme of works being carried out by various contractors of Severn Trent Water with a view to the impact on The Quarry itself and by extension the events calendar.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(i) That the contents of the report be noted.