

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
RECREATION AND LEISURE  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

**Officer:** Mike Cox – Outdoor Recreation and Asset Manager

**FISHERIES**

**Purpose of Report**

To update the Council the work of Shrewsbury Town Fisheries

**UPDATE**

River Bank work has now been completed along the entire stretch of the Shrewsbury Town Fisheries. However whilst doing the work, it did highlight the concerns about the quantity of Raw sewerage going into the river, as the lads when removing low branches were finding solid products caught in the branches. Removing the low branches removes the risk of unsightly objects becoming trapped but it does not solve the problem of waste disposal.

The fisheries team have purchased a boat with electric motor this will be ideal for working on water without disturbing the wildlife or neighboring residents.

Mousecroft Pool. The three new fishing platforms for the disabled anglers have been installed, and have been well received by members of the public. Due to the design and positive responses, it is felt that we could build smaller versions of these in future when replacing older, worn or damaged platforms as they are of a design which would benefit abled bodied anglers as well.

Some minor tree work required but it needs the assistance of Western Power to ensure falling limbs do not damage power lines

Monkmoor Fishery. The Lane has not been improved at this moment in time, however it is anticipated the drains will be installed within the next couple of weeks and the surface levelled.

Oxon Pool. Still performing well and successfully. A new gate is to be installed which will prevent people from climbing over and accessing the site when they should be using the appropriate pedestrian gate.

Reabrook fishery. This fishery has been working well, with the fisheries receiving lots of positive comments from people walking along side the brook.

Radbrook Pool. Invasive weeds were causing issues on the pool, as they cut off light and reduce oxygen levels within the water. A team has been in there at the start of November and cleared the pool of this weed including roots. The plants were left on the side of the pool to dry, die and decompose.

County Ground and Quarry. All works completed

Angling competitions. These have been held but were disappointing.

The number of competitors have reduced and those who were participating witnessed raw sewerage flowing from a manhole into the river with some of the competitors downstream catching solids, which did not reflect well on the town as a whole. The result was the last completion only attracted a third of the anticipated attendance.

Bailiff/Water keepers. They continue to provide voluntary contribution to maintenance and security of the fisheries. It is pleasing to report that the bailiffs have been more proactive in talking to visitors to the sites and it has brought about a positive change in attitude towards the bailiffs and the sport as a whole. In the past, coaching sessions have been met with some adverse comments from passersby as they regarded the waters as theirs, but now they can see the benefits of the work done by the volunteers and that the work being done is for the benefit of everyone.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. That the report is noted
2. That the Fishing Co-ordinator & Bailiffs be thanked for their continued work