

**PROGRESS REPORT  
SHREWSBURY TOWN FISHERIES  
FEBRUARY 2019**

The Town Council has been working closely with Andy Jones who is one of the managers of Total Angling with regards the management of the Shrewsbury Town Fisheries.

We are looking to adopt an online system, which produces the permit for the individual automatically.

The card will be a similar design to the signs we are producing.

It will have the applicants' details, contact number, membership number, category, expiry date, on the back there will be a signature strip and no photograph.

It is based on the Environment Agency Permit Scheme and it should reduce the cost from £4 per applicant to £1 or £1.50 depending on the company used to provide the cards.

Andy has someone already prepared to print off the cards.

Andy is taking email details from all anglers applying for a current permit, so he can send new permits once we are up and running.

We will see proof before he goes into production, but he says if we have ideas he is more than happy to discuss.

Andy has pinned up the new scale of charges with notes about online applications in the future. He says they are producing the permits as we have done previously, however once we go on line, he will look to transfer details onto the new system and anglers will then throw away the old permit. This will mean the anglers will get an automatic reminder to apply for the following years permit.

He has also indicated the permit prices will change from April in 2020 instead of January as it currently does.

The website is still being constructed.

Angling competition over Christmas was a huge success with a lot of positive feedback.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> January, there was a meeting at the Shropshire Wildlife Trust and the Environment Agency have indicated that they would be prepared to fund the Monkmoor Riverside Project £20,000 or match fund any contributions towards the scheme. They have taken away the proposals and will confirm at a later date if the Riverside Project has been successful.

Andy reports he has taken £600 in income in one day from people renewing permits, he is over the moon and he says a lot are returning after an absence due to work already done along Frankwell and The Quarry.

Angling Trust have been in touch to ask if we could possibly host a club world championship event in October 2019. Andy says this is the best of the best but we need to see how it fits in with our existing bookings, which we are already committed to.

The Angling Times have been in touch with Andy to do a double page feature on fishing at the County Ground and Quarry. If this happens, we could expect to see day permit sales increase dramatically plus benefits for local hotels as people will travel and stay to fish a water with a good reputation.

Bailiffing of the waters.

The bailiff Gary Dodd has been trained and issued with radio, telephone and bodycam. Unfortunately, he has written off his pick-up truck so bailiffing waters is a bit of a struggle until he gets a replacement vehicle.

There have been reports of poaching at Coleham Head. Signs have gone up and the bailiff has visited neighbouring properties and handed them his number, so if they see anything suspicious they have a direct contact number.

The new signs have been produced by Hilary in the office and they will be sent off to Sign & Poster for costing. If everything goes well we will place the order and arrange for the signs to be installed at the earliest opportunity, and any old signs removed.