



Shrewsbury

Town Council

September 2022



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UPDATE FROM COUNCILLOR ELISABETH ROBERTS, MAYOR OF SHREWSBURY



As usual, it's been a busy few months as Mayor, and I have loved every minute of it.

With my first Admission of Freeman last month, I was privileged to receive an Honorary Freeman for my mayoral year. Now, all I need is a herd of sheep to drive through the town, so if the painted sheep by Tesco go missing.....!!

At the end of July, I attended the Armed Forces civic reception at Shrewsbury Castle ahead of the Royal Yeomanry Freedom Parade the following day. It was lovely to meet the officers and their wives and the entertainment from RAF Shawbury's Military Wives Choir was fabulous.

The Freedom Parade saw 145 Royal Yeomanry soldiers and officers parading through the town to exercise their freedom of the town for the first time. We had the honour of welcoming HRH Princess Alexandra and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire, Anna Turner, who both inspected the troops in the Square.

One of the highlights of my week throughout the summer is the Mayoral teas in the Castle on a Wednesday afternoon. It's such a delight to watch visitors, who have been on a walking tour of Shrewsbury, visit the Mayoral Parlour for a cup of

tea and a slice of homemade cake and have a chat about their visit. The tours take place every day, with the Wednesday event taking in tea with the Mayor. More details can be found on the Museum and Art Gallery's website.

Walking Tours of Shrewsbury

I have also worked with Karen at Shrewsbury Foodbank, where we have created a short video to help break down the barriers and the stigma of using a foodbank. We also explain what people will receive in their bags after they have been referred and explain to viewers who exactly uses the foodbank. People are also able to see nurses, teachers and other professionals who will help struggling families to cope with the cost-of-living crisis we are currently seeing.

They do a fantastic job and are always on the lookout for canned food donations.



In full Mayoral regalia at the Shrewsbury Flower Show in August

It was great to see the Shrewsbury Flower Show fully back for the first time since 2019 and I was honoured to open the event with my youngest daughter, Martha, in attendance. The car ride in an 80-year-old Rolls Royce to the Quarry was something special!

The weather was so hot! And even hotter whilst I wore my Mayoral robes!

It was wonderful to be able to meet so many enthusiastic visitors and it is a great credit to the Shropshire Horticultural Society organisers that they managed to pull everything together so quickly.

The flowers were breathtaking, and my children loved the Tardis and the Royal Scarecrows, as well as the evening's entertainment.

My diary for the Autumn is already starting to fill up, so I'm expecting to be just as busy over the coming months.

In addition, I also started a new job at the beginning of this month. I have taken up a post at the first school in Shrewsbury that supports pupils who experience barriers to learning, such as autism and ADHD. This is something that I have pushed for over the last fifteen years, and so it's brilliant to be able to play my own small part in the development of this new scheme.

HER MAJESTY, QUEEN ELIZABETH II

From the Mayor of Shrewsbury, Councillor Elisabeth Roberts

I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II earlier this month at the age of 96. I know that my sadness was shared by my fellow Councillors, officers, staff and residents of Shrewsbury.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was our longest ruling Monarch in British history who was much loved and respected across the globe. She was an important figurehead for the UK and the Commonwealth with a sense of duty and devotion to a life of service.

Following her passing, I was honoured to read the Proclamation for King Charles III at Shrewsbury Castle on Sunday 11 September in a solemn, yet respectful ceremony.

I hope that the State Funeral on Monday provided people with an opportunity to say a fond farewell to our beloved Monarch. It was certainly a moving event and allowed us to reflect on her amazing life as: Queen, Mother, Grandmother, Great-grandmother as well as the Head of the Commonwealth.

So much work was done by Shrewsbury Town Council, Shropshire Council, not to mention the High Sheriff of Shropshire, Selina Graham, Lord-Lieutenant of Shropshire, Anna Turner, & other dignitaries to ensure the protocols for the passing of a reigning Monarch were followed and which allowed the residents of Shrewsbury to pay their respects in the town.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II
1926-2022

QUEEN'S COMMONWEALTH BATON RELAY

July was an exceptionally busy month for the town, with Madness and Let's Rock Shrewsbury playing to sell-out crowds in the Quarry on 15th and 16th of the month, and then we welcomed the Queen's Commonwealth Baton Relay on Monday, July 18.

It was a sweltering day, but the crowds turned out to greet the baton-bearers as they took it in turns to tour Shrewsbury before finishing at the Quarry.

The baton arrived by helicopter at Shrewsbury Sports Village in Sundorne, before the relay started from the Flaxmill Maltings and included a ride on Sabrina boat and a visit to Pengwern Boat



The Queen's Baton Relay at Shrewsbury Castle. Photo: Shropshire Council

Club, before ending up with a lap of the Dingle and a Civic reception on stage in the Quarry.

Entertainment was provided at locations along the route, as well as free family entertainment on stage in the Quarry, with bands and a community sing-along until the early evening.

The relay also paid a visit to Ironbridge, Telford, Lilleshall and Newport before heading off to the start of the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham on July 28.

The baton had been carried across Africa, Asia, South America and Oceania before arriving on our shores.



ROYAL YEOMANRY FREEDOM PARADE

We welcomed the Army's largest Reserve Light Cavalry Regiment at the end of July, when Army personnel paraded through the town centre exercising the Freedom of Shrewsbury for the first time.

Mayor of Shrewsbury, Councillor Elisabeth Roberts, welcomed a 145-strong team from the Royal Yeomanry at Shrewsbury Castle before the parade started at 2.00pm, and made its way through the town towards the Square, where the Royal Honorary Colonel, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire, Anna Turner, will be invited to inspect the troops by the Commanding Officer of the Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Field.

The Honorary Colonel of the Royal Yeomanry Regiment, Major General Simon Brooke, also inspected the troops.

The Mayor of Shrewsbury, Councillor Elisabeth Roberts, said: "It was be a great honour to receive the Royal Yeomanry



Royal Yeomanry Freedom Parade
Photo: Royal Yeomanry/Army

Regiment at the Castle before they marched through the town. We were delighted to recognise the work of the Army Reservists and this honour is in recognition of the long association and cordial relations which have existed between the town and the Regiment and the work of the



Honorary Colonel, HRH Princess Alexandra inspecting the Royal Yeomanry
Photo: Royal Yeomanry/Army

British Forces in helping to defend the interests of the United Kingdom.

"It was fantastic that so many people came along and supported our Armed Forces. It was a great spectacle with 145 personnel marching through the town behind a military band and a Jackal vehicle with bayonets fixed and standards flying."

The Regiment recruits from Shrewsbury and has a Squadron in Telford.

Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Charlie Field, said: "We were thrilled to receive the Freedom of Shrewsbury. The prestigious honour is testament to the support we receive from the local community.

"Some of our soldiers live and work in Shrewsbury and I'm sure they are very proud to be publicly honoured in their hometown."

The Royal Yeomanry were honoured with a private reception for the soldiers and their families at Shrewsbury Castle following the parade.

RECYCLE YOUR UNWANTED TREES

Don't forget to donate any unwanted trees to the Town Council to enable us to continue our work with the Trees Outside Woodland Project.

So, if you're having a clear out in your garden and don't want to throw away or compost those pesky self-setters, donate them to us and we'll monitor them for pests and diseases and grow them on.

We'll also log the trees to a database so that you can discover where your tree has been planted in Shropshire.

Get in touch with us:

E-mail:

enquiries@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Telephone: 01743 281010



SAFER STREETS FUNDING

Enhancements to security of the town centre and the Quarry Park has been made possible following a recent successful bid to the Home Office. Working with the West Mercia Police & the Police & Crime Commissioner, we have managed to secure funding to enhance park security into the early evening and night-time.

In 2021, as COVID restrictions were lifted, we employed security staff to help provide local reassurance for park users, encourage responsible usage by young people and address any unnecessary and unwanted behaviour. This cover was reimplemented in the spring of 2022 to address recent anti-social behaviour concerns.

Helen Ball, our Town Clerk, spoke of the Home Office bid: "The Safer Streets 4 funding scheme focussed on addressing violence against women and girls and this was clearly an issue for us in protecting people in the park. This funding will allow us to expand that visual presence in the park



Prosecure staff on duty in the Quarry

so that everyone can enjoy the facilities more."

Local security firm Prosecure has been commissioned to expand their existing security arrangements in the park to include patrols into the evening. Residents, park users as well as Town Council staff have welcomed the professional approach that security staff have brought to the park.

A representative of Prosecure said: "We have long since enjoyed good working relations with Shrewsbury Town Council. For many years, we have assisted them with Christmas

have provided security for high profile events like the Commonwealth Games Celebration event and the Royal Yeomanry Freedom Parade. We have built up a good team spirit and we have a collective vision on creating safe events and spaces that the public can enjoy."

The Safer Streets funding will provide support for the park, town centre ranger, taxi marshals, improvements to CCTV, lighting and signage and promotion of the Street Pastors Scheme. Working through Team Shrewsbury, partners will seek to maximise the impact of the funding in the town centre which has recently been highlighted as a concern area by West Mercia Police.

Chairman of our Recreation & Leisure Committee, Councillor Kevin Pardy said: "The Town Council has been a big supporter of Team Shrewsbury. By partners working together we can bring about better outcomes and make a difference in the town centre."

NEED TO GET IN TOUCH?

If you need to get in touch with us at the Town Council, you can do this in a number of ways:

Telephone: 01743 281010

E-mail: enquiries@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk

 @ShrewsburyTC

 @shrewsburytowncouncil

 @shrewsbury_town_council

Or via our website:

Contact Shrewsbury
Town Council



COUNTRYSIDE UNIT UPDATE - HAY MAKING AT COLUMN MEADOWS

Our Countryside team was busy in July cutting and baling hay at Column Meadows, which forms part of the Rea Brook Local Nature Reserve.

The hay is cut and then dried for a few days to allow the wildflower seed to drop onto the ground.

Removing the hay is an important part of the process as this reduces the fertility of the soil so promoting meadow species such as yellow rattle, orchid and knapweed.



Photos: Haymaking at Column Meadows

We use tractors for speed and efficiency, but the process is basically the same as it has been for hundreds of years.

The intensification of agriculture has meant that 97% of hay meadows have been lost since the 1930's meaning that this work is vital for biodiversity including pollinators.

Our Countryside team manages around 11 Hectares of hay meadow in Shrewsbury with the hay going to feed beef cattle during the winter months.

**Countryside
Sites**



COUNTRYSIDE UNIT UPDATE - REPAIRS AT THE REA BROOK

Our Ranger team was out repairing a set of steps along the Rea Brook Local Nature Reserve last month.

You may recall our team carried out a refurbishment of all the steps on our countryside sites last winter and some are already showing signs of damage.



This shows the wear and tear our infrastructure has to withstand with footfall, floods and environmental causes.

It's important that our staff, volunteers and members of the public stay vigilant and report any damage when spotted.



To report any damage please contact Jim Goldsmith, our Countryside and Greenspace Manager.

jim.goldsmith@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Photos below: Repair work on the steps at the Rea Brook LNR



COUNTRYSIDE UNIT UPDATE

SPECIES SPOTLIGHT - FOCUS ON FUNGI

This photo of fungi was taken at Copthorne Park.

Chicken of the woods (*Laetiporus sulphureus*) growing on a Crack willow (*Salix fragilis*).

A thick, fleshy bracket fungus, bright creamy yellow with bands of orange when young, fading to cream with age. Chicken of the

woods is a vital species, supporting a host of wildlife.

Chicken of the woods fungus is edible, although it does not agree with everyone.

Disclaimer: Never eat any plant, berry or fungi unless you are sure of its identification.



Chicken of the woods at Copthorne Park

HELP IDENTIFY THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGING TREE AT REA BROOK LNR

Staff from our Countryside and Greenspace team are asking members of the public for help in identifying those responsible for damage to one of their trees in a Nature Reserve.

An established field maple tree in the Rea Brook Local Nature Reserve has been cut back in such a way that the tree could sustain further damage.

Jim Goldsmith, our countryside and greenspace manager, said: "The field maple has been poorly pruned, which may leave it open to fungal or bacterial colonisation.

"We are asking for the public's help in identifying who carried out this work, which we believe happened sometime in August. The work was undertaken over a public right of way within the boundary of the Town Council's Rea Brook Local Nature Reserve behind Summit Close.

"If a tree surgeon has been employed to carry out this work, any van used could well have been parked in either Summit Close or along White Hart

"If anyone has seen anything, please get in touch with either the Town Council or via West Mercia

Police, quoting Crime Number 22/84200/22."

Anyone wanting to get in touch with us can e-mail Jim Goldsmith at jim.goldsmith@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk and all information will be treated in the strictest confidence.

We will be undertaking the cost of the remedial works to try and save the tree.

Photos below: Damage to an established field maple tree at the Rea Brook Local Nature Reserve. Staff believe the work was undertaken in August



COUNTRYSIDE & GREENSPACE TEAM UPDATE

SPECIES SPOTLIGHT - WATER SCORPION (*nepa cinerea*)

Whilst conducting an aquatic invertebrate survey of the old riverbed SSSI, our Countryside Ranger, Adam Clifford found this water scorpion.

Although not a true scorpion, it certainly looks like one!

An underwater predator, the water scorpion hides among dead leaves where it waits to ambush its prey (such as tadpoles and small fish) with its grabbing pincer-like legs.

Its tail actually acts as a kind of 'snorkel', rather than a sting, so it

can breathe in the water.

For more information on our Old River Bed site, visit our website at:

**Old River Bed
SSSI**



Photos Left: The water scorpion found at the Old River Bed SSSI

THROW LINE TRAINING FOR STAFF

Members of our operational staff received training from Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service at the end of July on how to use throw lines in case of an emergency in the River Severn.

As part of our collective response to river safety, twenty members of our operational staff took part in the RNLI Waterside Responder training at the fire station in Castlefields.

Helen Ball, town clerk, said: "A lot of our land in Shrewsbury is adjacent to the river and it made sense to have our operational staff undergo training to use the vital life-saving throw lines which are placed at intervals along the river side.

"This type of training will give our staff the extra confidence to use the throw lines should they find themselves in those circumstances."

Assistant Chief Fire officer Dan Quinn



Photo: Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service

Operational staff undertaking throw line training from Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service in July

said: "We have been unfortunate enough to see some tragedies in the water in Shropshire this year and so training sessions like this are incredibly important. It was great to see more than 20 of Shrewsbury Town Council's operatives attending the throw line training last week.

These are the people who are out in the community and may well be able

to help if someone is in trouble.

"The session was really well received, and it was great to see the operatives get involved with both the theory and practical elements. The town council staff are around the areas on a daily basis and, like us, have the chance to have conversations and share knowledge on things like water safety.

We welcome more opportunities to work with our partners in the future to keep Shropshire safe.

"It is great to see people enjoying themselves around the water, but we want them to be doing it safely."

If you see someone in difficulty in the water, do not enter it yourself, call 999 and ask for the fire service. If you happen to end up in the water unexpectedly then remember to float on your back and make a star shape for approximately 60 seconds until you have acclimatised to the water and can get your breathing under control.

GET SNAPPING FOR OUR SHREWSBURY IN BLOOM PHOTO COMPETITION

We're inviting residents of Shrewsbury to submit their photographs in a bid to be featured on the front or back cover of the annual Shrewsbury in Bloom Portfolio of Evidence.

The Shrewsbury in Bloom Committee is offering local residents the opportunity to have their photo of the town on the front or back cover of the annual portfolio, which is presented to the Royal Horticultural Society's judges as they assess the town against exacting criteria.

The portfolio contains details of life in Shrewsbury under the 'Bloom Ethos' over the course of a twelve-month period.

Shrewsbury in Bloom was awarded Gold in the Heart of England in Bloom Small City Category last year, and we're keeping our fingers crossed for Gold again this year.

When we think of Shrewsbury in Bloom, we automatically assume that we're talking about the plants and flowers we see around town.

As part of the town's entry into the Bloom competitions, the town is judged on a number of criteria, including Horticultural Excellence, Environmental Responsibility and Community Participation.

Chairman of Shrewsbury in Bloom, Keith Roberts, said: "We had an amazing response to our competition for the 2022 Bloom Portfolio and the final decision for the winning entries wasn't easy. It's wonderful to see so many people helping to support us with the work we do in the town.

I would like to thank everyone who entered our competition.

"We had two worthy winners with Lee Roberts' photo of the entrance to Shrewsbury Castle for the front cover with Liam Ball's evocative sunset over the Kingsland Bridge featuring on the back cover.

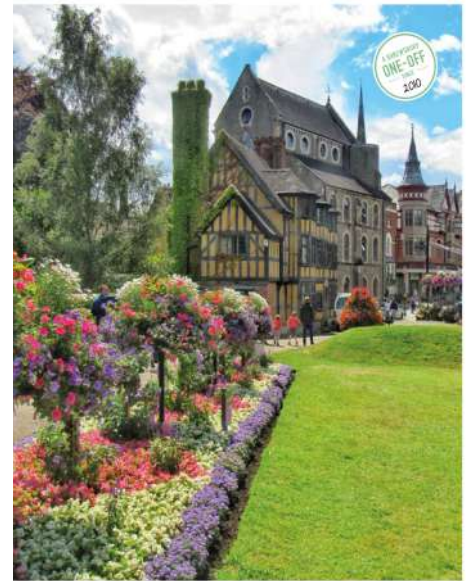
"Whilst we're not necessarily looking for photos of flowers, we want to showcase our beautiful town with pictures of buildings or places of local interest. I would encourage people to get snapping throughout the year and send their best photos for a chance to be featured on our Bloom Portfolio."

Photos should be taken within the last twelve months in the town of Shrewsbury.

Entries should be emailed to: hilary.humphries@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk at any time until the end of May 2023.

To view this year's and our previous editions of the Shrewsbury in Bloom Portfolio, visit our website at:

Shrewsbury in Bloom Portfolio



Shrewsbury
in Bloom

2022 Portfolio

Front cover of the 2022 Shrewsbury in Bloom Portfolio, taken by Lee Roberts



We would like to thank all those organisations, companies and individuals who contribute to Shrewsbury in Bloom, helping to improve the quality of life for all residents and those who work in the town.

Shrewsbury Town Council, Kings Hall, The Library, Castle Gates, Shrewsbury, SH5 2AB

@ShrewsburyTC | @shrewsburytowncouncil | shrewsburytowncouncil



Back cover of the 2022 Shrewsbury in Bloom Portfolio, taken by Liam Ball

Shrewsbury
in Bloom

SHREWSBURY WELCOMED THE HEART OF ENGLAND IN BLOOM JUDGES

With some last-minute preparations around the town, we welcomed the Heart of England in Bloom judges in late July.

Starting at Shrewsbury's historic Castle, the judges were taken on a tour of the town whilst assessing the town's floral excellence against exacting criteria.



Heart of England in Bloom Judges Nicola Clarke and Gareth Manning inspect the Cosmic Egg at Shrewsbury Castle

Our planting schemes were completed at the beginning of July, and the town was starting to look more colourful with a vast array of hanging baskets, planters and floral beds. The award-winning Dingle gardens have



Heart of England in Bloom Judges Nicola Clarke and Gareth Manning take a Rickshaw ride with Bloom Group members Jane Mackenzie and Kath Owen

more than 30,000 plants in the formal flowerbeds and are always a highlight of the judges' tour.

Our Town Clerk, Helen Ball, said: "We always look forward to welcoming the Heart of England in Bloom judges to Shrewsbury and to showcase the fantastic work that everyone does to make the town look so wonderful. It's been a challenge to maintain the blooms in the fierce heat of last month, but I am proud of the work our staff and volunteers have

undertaken to ensure that the town is looking its best.

"Once again, due to our population size, we have entered the Small City category and we will be judged on the 'three pillars of Bloom' – horticultural excellence, environmental responsibility and community participation – and we hope that we have been able to demonstrate these criteria to the judges."

Chairman of Shrewsbury in Bloom, Keith Roberts, added: "We're proud to be in the Heart of England competition once again and it's great that we have been able to welcome the judges for the first time since 2019.

"The varied weather we have experienced recently does highlight the hard work undertaken by everyone who has gone above and beyond to ensure that the town looks its best. I would like to thank everyone for their continued support which helps to make Shrewsbury the great place it is."

The results will be announced at an awards ceremony in mid-September in Sutton Coldfield.



Shrewsbury in Bloom welcomed the Heart of England in Bloom judges at the Castle



The Heart of England in Bloom judges paid a visit to the Barnabas Centre in Longden Coleham to find out how they help local people



YOUNG SHREWSBURY UPDATE

ROUND UP OF YOUTH PROVISION OVER THE SUMMER & NEW SESSIONS TIMETABLE

Over the course of the summer, we have had a very successful Holidays and Activities Fund [HAF] programme in partnership with Shropshire Council, providing activities and food for young people at locations across the town, including some young Syrian families.

Young Shrewsbury has also supported Shropshire Youth's detached team with activities in open spaces around the Shrewsbury area, which has also included the use of 'beer goggles' to talk to young people about alcohol issues and recreational area consultations.

Our timetable for youth club sessions are:

Mondays – The Grange Open Youth Club
6:30-8:30pm (Years 7, 8 and 9)

Tuesdays – Youth Café (NEW) @ The Hive 4-6pm
(Years 8, 9, 10 & 11)

Wednesdays – The Grange Pre-Juniors Open Youth Club 6-8pm (Years 5 & 6)

Wednesdays – Sundorne Games Hall Open Youth Club 6:30-8:30pm (Years 7, 8 & 9)

Thursdays – Football @ The Monkmoor Rec Astro Turf 5-6pm (Years 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11)

Thursdays – Monkmoor Lodge Open Youth Club 5-6:15pm (Years 5,6)

Thursdays – Monkmoor Lodge Open Youth Club 6:30-8:00pm (Years 7, 8 & 9)

These sessions start week commencing 12th September 2022.

We have listened to the needs of our young people locally resulting in a new additional youth session being commissioned for this cohort year at the Hive starting from Tuesday 13 September 2022 (term time only).

Young Shrewsbury's Hive Youth Café will focus on providing a safe place where young people can meet and share in creative activities including music, drama and films.

Youth workers will on hand to provide young people with current up-to-date information, advice, and guidance on a variety of topics including careers and college courses. The session will run from 4pm-6pm after school.



Photos Right: Summer activities from Young Shrewsbury as part of the HAF summer programme



Shrewsbury
Town Council



Young Shrewsbury's Youth Clubs are Back!

Youth Sessions start back from Monday 12th September 2022

*It's ALL totally **FREE!***

Monday – Grange Juniors 6:30-8:30pm (Y7-9)

Tuesday – “Youth Café” @ The Hive 4-6pm (NEW**) (Y8-11)**

Wednesday – Sundorne Youthy 6:30-8:30pm

Wednesday – Pre-Juniors @ The Grange 6-8pm (Y5&6)

Thursday – Football Coaching @ Monkmoor Rec 5-6pm

Thursday – Monkmoor Juniors 5-6:15pm (Y5-6)

Thursday – Monkmoor Seniors 6:30-8pm (Y7-11)

Young Shrewsbury's Youth Club Sessions include:

Sport - football, hockey, rounders, badminton, pool and table tennis.

Arts & Crafts - including paper crafts, painting, sand art, Hama Beads, jewellery making and wool craft.

Cookery & Food - including Pizza, chocolate brownies, toasties, fruit smoothies and shortbread.

**Contact the Youth & Community Manager, Andy Hall,
for more Information: 01743 344800 or 07976 020 819**

andy.hall@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk

“Come and Join the fun!”

List of Forthcoming Council Meetings

In accordance with Schedule 12 10(2) (a) Local Government Act 1972, notice is hereby given of the following meetings of the Council.

Tuesday 20 September 2022

Planning Committee – 6pm

Monday 26 September 2022

Finance & General Purposes Committee – 6pm

Tuesday 4 October 2022

Extraordinary meeting of Full Council – 6pm at St Chad's Church

Thursday 6 October 2022

Climate Change Standing Committee – 2.30pm

Tuesday 11 October 2022

Planning Committee – 6pm

Tuesday 1 November 2022

Planning Committee – 6pm

Wednesday 9 November 2022

Recreation & Leisure Committee – 6pm

Monday 14 November 2022

Full Council – 6pm

Tuesday 22 November 2022

Planning Committee – 6pm

Full details, including Agendas and paperwork, can be found on our website at:

**Shrewsbury Town Council
List of Meetings**





TEAM SHREWSBURY LATEST UPDATE



INCREASE IN BIKE THEFTS

West Mercia Police has noticed an increase in the number of bicycle thefts in Shrewsbury.

Basic crime prevention can help prevent it from being targeted.

- Always lock your bike when you leave it, even if it's only for a few minutes.
- It's worth investing in a good quality lock and, for even better security, use two different types of locks such as a D lock plus a robust chain and padlock.
- Always lock it to a secure post or immovable object.
- If possible, lock your bike at recognised secure bike parking that's well covered by good lighting and CCTV.
- Don't forget security starts at the garden gate.
- Don't leave your bike in the garden if you don't have adequate security.
- If you're storing your bike in a shed, garage or outbuilding make sure it has a good quality lock and an alarm.
- If your bike is kept in a common stairwell, ensure the door is always locked and secure and the door entry system is working.

Make sure you lock the bike too.

- Security mark the frame with a UV pen – or forensic technology such as SmartWater.
- If you use SmartWater you just need to make a mark with the liquid – UV lights will detect SmartWater and if it has been registered, identify the property as belonging to you.
- Use your initials, postcode or another mark that is unique to you.



Photo: Do Castle

- Make a note of the serial number, this is normally located underneath the bike and should be written down or photographed and kept somewhere safe.
- Consider registering your bike with a property registering database such as: www.bikeregister.com
- Consider insuring your bike, especially if you have a high value bike or there are a number of bikes in the household

If you have information regarding bicycle thefts, let West Mercia Police know using the online 'Tell Us About' form on their website:

**Contact West
Mercia Police**

If you aren't comfortable contacting the Police directly, you can pass on information anonymously to the independent charity, Crimestoppers, by calling 0800 555 111 or by visiting their website:

**Contact
Crimestoppers**

HELP AVAILABLE WITH COST OF LIVING FROM SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL

If you are struggling with the cost of living, you may be able to apply for some help from Shropshire Council.

The Council's Welfare Support Team administers Local Welfare Provision schemes that can provide support for people who are struggling to meet their essential living costs.

For queries about this, please call the team on 0345 678 9078 (option 1).

To make an application, please call our application line, on 0345 678 9078 (option 2).

For more information on the Welfare Support Team:

**Click here for Welfare
Support Team**

For more information on help with the cost of living:

**Click here for more
information on help**



EXTREME HEAT DANGERS OF DISPOSABLE BBQs

West Mercia Police would like to highlight the dangers of using disposable BBQs in open areas and parks during the exceptional hot weather we continue to experience this summer. The dry grass can easily become scorched or even set alight by a spark or hot coal from the tray.

With the Fire Service already stretched during this heatwave, we need to take as many precautions as we can to ensure BBQs are used in a safe and secure environment. We must make sure that no grass fires are started that could escalate further afield and somebody becoming injured.

Please also be aware if you are using them inside a tent or caravan, as they emit an odourless, tasteless and colourless gas which can be very



The dangers of extreme heat from disposable BBQs can scorch dry grass and cause fires

difficult to detect. A primary danger is that a disposable barbecue can produce carbon monoxide long after its flames are extinguished, only stopping once the fuel source is entirely cold,

which can be several hours after use.

No person under the age of 18 is legally allowed to purchase a disposable BBQ.

How to stay safe:

- Know how a barbecue produces carbon monoxide
- Make sure you are using your barbecue in a well-vented area
- Never bring a barbecue into an enclosed space
- Do not use a barbecue as a heat source
- Dispose of your barbecue in a safe and responsible way as soon as you have finished cooking.



SIGN UP FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD MATTERS



Find out what's really happening in your area and keep in touch with West Mercia Police through their free messaging service.

The Neighbourhood Matters messaging system enables residents, businesses and community groups to keep in touch with local policing teams. You can receive updates on crimes, latest information on on-going incidents and learn more about what they're doing in your community.

You're invited to sign up and become a registered recipient of messages of information, crime alerts or witness appeals local to the area in which you live or work by email, text or telephone.

Don't worry, they won't bombard you with every incident. You can choose exactly the type of alert you wish to receive.

West Mercia Police would really like to hear from you, so why not ask your family, friends and colleagues to register too? Let's get talking!

Please note that this service is not for reporting crimes or incidents – to make a report please contact West Mercia Police via the West Mercia

Police website or dial 999 in an emergency.

Contact West Mercia Police

To sign up for Neighbourhood Matters, please go to:

Neighbourhood Matters



DON'T LET FRIENDS WALK HOME ALONG THE RIVER.

IT'S NOT WORTH THE RISK.

Cold water shock can set in immediately even when temperatures are warmer, leaving you unable to rescue yourself.





E-SCOOTERS



E-scooters are a growing trend of new personal transport that come under the category of “powered transporters”. This also covers a range of other personal transport devices which are powered by a motor, like Segways.

“Powered transporters” fall within the legal definition of a motor vehicle under the Road Traffic Act 1988. Therefore, the rules that apply to motor vehicles – cars and motorbikes, also apply to e-scooters. As a motor vehicle, they must comply with various pieces of Road Traffic Legislation, including but not limited to:

- driving with a licence
- driving/riding with insurance
- driving/riding other than on a road
- need to be registered and taxed

Of course, you can’t register and tax them because they don’t meet the safety regulations required, so the result is that you simply are not allowed to use them on roads, pavements or other public places.

If you do use an E-Scooter in those places you could face prosecution. Even if you are given a fixed penalty ticket, riding without insurance attracts a £300 fine and 6 points on your driving licence. If you don’t have a licence, the points would be on it when you apply for one.

Further fines could be imposed for riding without a licence, riding on the pavement or off-road. Worse still, the matter could be referred to a Magistrates court

where fines and points can be higher.

The police can also seize and destroy the E-Scooter if it is ridden without a licence or insurance, or carelessly in a manner likely to alarm, distress or annoy people – even if this is off the road.

Where can I ride an E-Scooter?

It is legal to use an e-scooter on private land with the permission of the land-owner. The government recognises that this type of personal transport might be useful and environmentally friendly, so has also announced that there can be trials in specified areas. These are for rental E-Scooters only so that the places they can be used are ‘geo-fenced’ and the rental covers the insurance.



Where can I get more information?

The.gov website offers detailed information about the law and about the E-Scooter trials.

Information on E-Scooters

Visit www.gov.uk and search for terms such as ‘Powered



Transporters’, ‘Mini-Scooters’ or ‘E-Scooters’ or ‘E-Scooter trials’.

There is also advice about driving/ riding law and penalties.

You can also look up the related laws at legislation.co.uk

Sec 59 Police reform Act (Anti-Social driving on or off road)

Sec 34 Road Traffic Act (Driving Off Road)

The Road Traffic Act determines the requirement for careful riding with a licence and insurance.

Different legislation permits ‘Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycles, Mobility Scooters, but as yet, there is no legislation permitting use of E-Scooters in public places outside of the government trials.

There have been many concerns reported to West Mercia Police regarding the use of E-Scooters and the impact they are having on the community.

If you have any concerns or would like to speak to the Police, please contact get in touch with them.

Contact West Mercia Police



Shrewsbury

Town Council

**Allotments
Public Open Space
Leisure & Recreation
Play Areas
Shrewsbury in Bloom
Christmas Lights
Events & Festivals
Footway Lighting
Mayor of Shrewsbury & Civic Events
Bus Shelters
Youth Services
Memorials on Town Council Assets
Toilet Facilities in Shrewsbury**

Telephone: 01743 281010

Email: enquiries@shrewsburytowncouncil.gov.uk

Which Council does What?

Do you know which Council empties your dustbins, plants and maintains the flowers around the town, or is responsible for education and social care in the county?

We know it can be confusing and it's not always easy to find out who is responsible for what. This information is designed to help point you in the right direction.



Shropshire
Council

**Education
Housing
Council Tax & Benefits
Waste Collection & Re-cycling
Social Care
Public Rights of Way
Highways, Gritting, Street Lights & Potholes
Towpath gates & Cleansing of towpath
Public Protection
Planning
Libraries
Leisure & Recreation
Shrewsbury Shopping Centres
Museum & Art Gallery / Visitor Information Centre
Youth Provision
Car Parks & Blue Badges
Bus Passes**

Telephone: 0345 678 9000

Email: customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk



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