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The Shrewsbury in Bloom Group takes its environmental responsibilities seriously.  
We have printed our Bloom Portfolio on 100% recycled paper using eco-friendly ink.

The Shrewsbury in Bloom Group asked members of the public to submit their favourite photos of the town as part of their annual Bloom Portfolio photo competition. The winning entries are featured on the front and back cover.

**Front cover image:** The entrance to Shrewsbury Castle was taken by Lee Roberts, a whole-time fire fighter based at Shrewsbury fire station. Living in Castlefields with his wife and son, photography is a passion for him and he regularly posts iconic images of the town on social media. Lee's winning photos were also featured on the front and back cover of the 2017 Shrewsbury in Bloom Portfolio.

**Back cover image:** The photo of the sunset over the River Severn was taken from Kingsland Bridge in September 2021 by Liam Ball. With a keen interest in the weather, Liam has taken and shared his photos on social media over the course of the last four years. He feels that the bridge is an ideal vantage point for observing sunsets in Shrewsbury and on this particular evening, the sky was changing quickly and, grabbing his camera, the rowers were coming through at just the right moment. Liam rates this photo as one of his favourites of Shrewsbury.



## Councillor Elisabeth Roberts

As Mayor of Shrewsbury, it is my great pleasure to welcome you back to our beautiful and historic county town.

We are delighted to have this opportunity to showcase our horticultural work as we enter the Heart of England in Bloom competition.

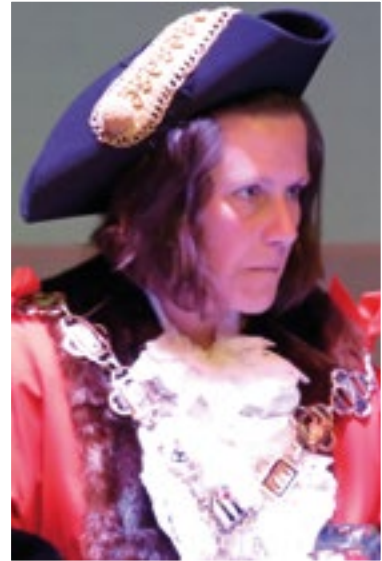
Once again, it has been a challenging year, but with restrictions lifting and as people start to go about their business, we are seeing the continuation of the wonderful community spirit that has become established in the town and which makes such a positive difference to people's lives.

We are proud to continue to be a part of this prestigious competition and promote our town's horticultural excellence. And, through a combined effort, we continue to strive to make our local environment a better place for everyone to enjoy.

The Shrewsbury in Bloom highlights you will see on your visit are only possible with the work of all the volunteers, business

sponsors, community groups and other organisations who work together so well on these occasions. I would also like to pay tribute to the Shrewsbury in Bloom Group for the way in which they encourage everyone to join together to uphold our established traditions of horticultural distinction.

I hope that you enjoy your visit to Shrewsbury as we showcase some of those hidden gems that make our town such an 'Original One Off'.



### Chairman, Shrewsbury in Bloom

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## Keith Roberts

As chairman of Shrewsbury in Bloom, I am delighted to be able to welcome you back to our wonderful town as we enter the regional Heart of England in Bloom competition in the Small City category.

I'm also sure that you are pleased to be able to join us in Shrewsbury to see the progress the town has made since your last visit in 2019.

Despite the challenging conditions of the last two years, we have continued to promote the Bloom ethos across the town to help enhance the lives of people in Shrewsbury and promote the positive aspects of horticulture for people to enjoy.

The Bloom Group continues to work alongside the two extremely supportive Town and Unitary Councils in Shrewsbury and, utilising the Bloom philosophy across everything the town does, helps to ensure that so many areas and the people who live, work and visit the town see these benefits.

For us, our main aim is to produce our floral displays for the

height of our summer season, although we work hard to ensure that the town looks attractive and welcoming to those visitors who come to Shrewsbury for both the floral aspects and its history throughout the whole year.

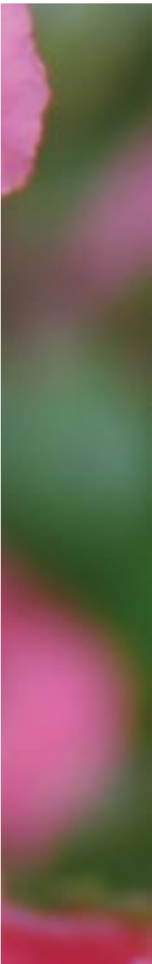
So many community groups, organisations and individuals actively work together to uphold our highly-regarded prized floral reputation – these are the fantastic people that make Bloom happen every year. They include: Team Shrewsbury, West Mercia Police, Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service, The Hive, Shropshire Council, Veolia, Shrewsbury Town Centre Residents Association, Shropshire Horticultural Society, the Environment Agency and the Allotment Associations.

Working together, we help to keep Shrewsbury blooming all year round.



## The Shrewsbury in Bloom Group

- The Shrewsbury in Bloom Group meets on a regular basis throughout the year, but more frequently during the summer months, to help plan the floral displays for the following year. Income is generated from actively marketing, promoting and selling hanging baskets to local businesses in the town centre. The Town Council works in partnership with Shrewsbury BID to market the hanging baskets with a view to ensuring that the town is filled with colour throughout the summer. The Bloom Group also seeks floral sponsorship for roundabouts, planters and other floral features from companies wishing to promote their businesses to a wider audience.
- The Bloom Group is principally made up of volunteers from the local community and businesses. There are currently 4 volunteer members, 3 council officers and 5 councillors who work closely with all its partners to ensure the town always looks its best.
- The group's main objective is to act as a stakeholder for new ideas and projects to enhance the town.
- The Bloom Group takes great pride in the fact that there is continuity in our collaboration with companies, which is testament to the pride and commitment of local businesses in Shrewsbury. This enables us to provide the visual impact of the floral displays around the town. Shrewsbury currently has 28 business sponsors, and to provide additional assistance to local businesses following the Coronavirus pandemic, companies have been charged 50% of the usual rate for sponsorship of their location.
- Shrewsbury in Bloom is fortunate to have a wide range of sponsors, both national and local companies, which includes: Morris Properties; Veolia Environmental Services; Crowmoor Primary School; James Holyoak & Parker Limited; Marches Care Ltd; Ray Parry Playground Services; Greenthumb; Copthorne Road Vets; Sign & Poster; MiPower Limited; Bluebird Care; Dyke Yaxley Solicitors; Inocencia; GreenTek; Gild of Freeman of Shrewsbury; Kingsland Polymers; Whitecroft Fish & Chip Shop; First Car; Lunts The Chemist; Oxon Touring Park; The Parade Shopping Centre; Abbey Removals Limited, My Man Cave Barbers, Chimera RPO, Radfield Home Care, DecoStitch, Star Cars Travel Limited, Salop Leisure, Approved Care and Support, Shrewsbury Self Store, Edmondson Electrical, Shropshire House Clearance and Bellway Homes Ltd (West Midlands).
- Whilst schools have their own specific issues to deal with following the disruption to education from the Coronavirus pandemic, the Town Council's Youth and Community Manager continues to work with local schools with a view to increasing participation amongst schools in the Bloom competitions.
- Shrewsbury Town Council organises its own Town of Flowers competition and encourages residents to enter the Best Residential Front Garden, Best Residential Container/Hanging Basket and Best Commercial Premises categories.
- Shrewsbury in Bloom has its own section on the Town Council's website to promote projects, events and activities, display schools' work and announce winners of competitions. There will be the launch of a new stand-alone Shrewsbury in Bloom website during 2022.
- The Town Council actively promotes the work of Shrewsbury in Bloom via its social media platforms of Facebook and Twitter (@ShrewsburyTC and @ShrewsBloom) and promotes the various Bloom events, competitions and winners throughout the year.







# Review of the Year

## July 2021

- Staff from Shrewsbury Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace team help to rescue missing parrot Lola whilst working in Radbrook
- The Belle Vue Arts Festival Garden Trail takes place with 24 gardens open to the public to explore



- Shrewsbury Town Council's wildflower meadows at locations across the town are at their peak
- Comics Salopia brings nine life-sized comic art trail boards across the town, authored and created by the biggest names in British comics
- Shrewsbury Town Council commits to develop a strategy to become a 'Town of Sanctuary' for refugees
- Fake reports of a boa constrictor being released sees the Dingle closed until the area has been searched
- The Shropshire County Show returns to the West Midlands Showground for the first time since 2019 with a traditional agricultural show

## August 2021



- Let's Rock Shrewsbury returns to the Quarry following a break due to the Coronavirus pandemic and entertains 10,000 fans with a variety of acts performing their hits from the 1980s
- New Wayfinding signs installed around Shrewsbury to help ensure visitors discover everything that the town has to offer
- Shrewsbury Town Council begins to take delivery of the spring bedding plants at its Weeping Cross Centre
- Due to the cancellation of the 134th Shrewsbury Flower Show, the event embraces technology and holds a Virtual Flower Show instead, with mini garden designs in the Quarry
- Rickshaw-style bike shuttles are trialled in the town centre as part of a new strategy to encourage active travel
- Final orders for the Spring bedding planting programmes are submitted to nurseries around the country
- Shrewsbury Town Council, working alongside Shrewsbury BID and Shropshire Council, is part of a group to submit an Expression of Interest to the Department for Transport for funding towards a Mini-Holland project to prioritise walking and cycling for short journeys within the town
- Shrewsbury 10k road race takes place in the town
- Shrewsbury Folk Festival returns to the West Midlands Show Ground after being postponed from 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic
- Judging is completed in Shrewsbury in Bloom's annual Town of Flowers competitions, with awards in commercial, residential front and back gardens and best floral container categories



- Shrewsbury Town Council staff start to take delivery of around 40,000 spring bedding plants



## September 2021

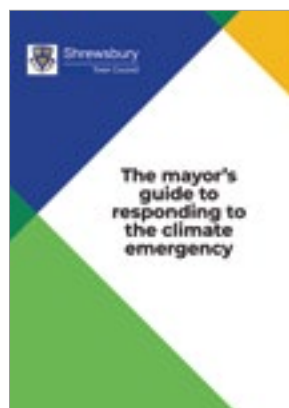
- The eighth Shrewsbury Food Festival takes place in the Quarry after being postponed from 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic
- To commemorate the 81st anniversary of the Battle of Britain, servicemen and women attend a brief memorial service and wreath-laying ceremony in Quarry park
- After cancelling the event in 2020, Race for Life returns to the Quarry raising money for Cancer Research UK
- The rare 3,000-year-old 'sun pendant' from Shropshire, one of the most significant Bronze Age metalworks ever discovered in Britain, goes on display at the Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery

## October 2021

- Spring bedding planting programme starts from the beginning of the month
- The Rainbow Film Festival returns to the town for the first time since 2019
- The fourth Oktober Fest is held in the Quarry, attracting over 10,000 visitors to the event
- The Shrewsbury Half Marathon returns to the town
- Christmas lights are erected around the town
- Green Door Day provides an opportunity for homeowners to pick up tips and advice on how to make their homes more energy efficient as part of Zero Carbon Shropshire's project to make homes greener
- The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference – COP26 – takes place in Glasgow. Shrewsbury Town Council promotes the work it is doing to help combat Climate Change via social media over the course of the two-week conference

## November 2021

- Shropshire Council holds an Electric Vehicle Exhibition at Shrewsbury Town Football Club's ground to enable people to find out more about owning an electric vehicle
- Members of Shrewsbury Severn Rotary Club plant 4,000 crocus bulbs in the grounds of Shrewsbury Abbey
- The Mayor of Shrewsbury, Councillor Julian Dean, issues a Climate Emergency Guide to help people think about ways to reduce their carbon footprint
- Shrewsbury pays tribute to all the men and women who died serving their country in the annual Remembrance Sunday, held this year at the War Memorial in the Quarry



- The community celebrates the Christmas lights switch-on, with Father Christmas on his sleigh in the town centre, and in a scaled back event, Rock Choir, Porthywaen Brass Band and Shrewsbury Male Voice Choir entertain the large crowd in the Square



- Castlefields Yarn Bombers create post box toppers and install them at locations around the town to raise awareness of the damaging effects of climate change
- Voting for Shrewsbury Market Hall begins in the annual NABMA 'Britain's Favourite Market' competition
- The first named storm of the winter, Arwen, with strong winds, causes tree damage across the county
- The annual Shrewsbury Rotary Tree of Light church service is held at the Abbey

## December 2021

- Shrewsbury's annual pantomime at the Theatre Severn starts its festive run with this year's performance of Peter Pan



- Barriers are erected in Shrewsbury ahead of a flood warning from heavy rainfall from Storm Barra
- Shrewsbury Town Council's Carols in the Square is held in the Square for the first time in two years, bringing some festive cheer to the town centre. My Shrewsbury magazine and Shropshire Festivals' 'Doorstep Carols' goes nationwide and is broadcast on BBC Radio Shropshire, with choirs across the country joining in
- Residents in Shrewsbury are asked to request new recycling bins from Shropshire Council for cans, glass and plastic to encourage people to recycle more waste following a survey of residents in 2018

- Shrewsbury Food Hub hosts a number of food share tables over Christmas and New Year for members of the public to collect surplus food collected from local supermarkets

## January 2022

- Work starts on the 250 lime trees in the Quarry as part of the first major tree works in twenty years to protect this heritage asset for many years to come
- Salopians are encouraged to 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee' as part of the Queen's Green Canopy project, with Shrewsbury Town Council offering free trees for residents of the county



## February 2022

- Storms Dudley, Eunice and Franklin sweep across the country, bringing widespread flooding to the town
- Nominations are sought for those unsung heroes of the town as part of the annual Mayor's Awards
- The Darwin Festival takes place at various locations across the town and also online to help celebrate the birthplace of Charles Darwin and encourage people to promote the town's most famous son
- Shrewsbury's Market Hall is named as runner-up in the NABMA Great British Markets Awards
- Shropshire Council unveils ambitious plans for redevelopment of the Riverside area of the town

## March 2022

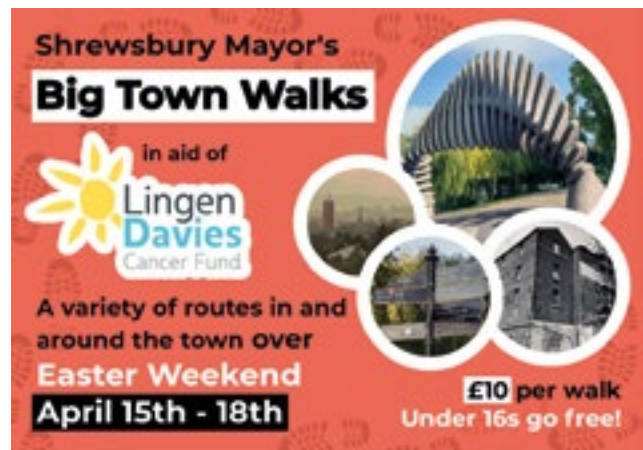
- Mayor of Shrewsbury, Councillor Julian Dean, organises a 'We Stand With Ukraine' vigil in the Quarry



- Around 1,500 runners take part in the Shrewsbury 10k road race
- Mayor of Shrewsbury, Councillor Julian Dean, joins other civic leaders around the country to plant a tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations as part of the Queen's Green Canopy project
- Shrewsbury Town Council sets aside £25,000 to strengthen the support for those refugees affected by the invasion of Ukraine

## April 2022

- Mayor of Shrewsbury's Big Town walks take place over the Easter weekend in aid of Lingen Davies Cancer Fund to encourage people to enjoy the green spaces around the town and discover new aspects of their neighbourhoods



- Annual Town Meeting is held at the Walker Theatre for the first time since the Coronavirus pandemic
- The annual Mayor's Awards is held at the Walker Theatre with awards in eight categories presented to those local unsung heroes who selflessly help their local communities. Results for the Market Hall Trader of the Year are also announced.
- Shrewsbury Town Council staff begin to take delivery of summer bedding

## May 2022

- The Annual Town Council and Mayor Making ceremony is held at the Walker Theatre, and sees Councillor Elisabeth Roberts sworn in as Mayor of Shrewsbury and Councillor Becky Wall as Deputy Mayor





- Deliveries of summer bedding continue throughout the month
- The annual Shrewsbury Regatta is held on the River Severn for the first time since 2019
- Current and former Mayors, dignitaries, officials and civic leaders attend St Chad's Church for the annual Mayor's Sunday Service
- Shrewsbury is one of nineteen local authorities to receive a share of £1.5m for a feasibility study to assess how the town could become more pedestrian and cycle friendly
- Shrewsbury retains its Purple Flag accreditation for the seventh consecutive year for its vibrant and safe night-time economy
- The BBC descends on Shrewsbury to film street scenes for its upcoming production of Great Expectations, starring Olivia Colman, Tom Hardy as Executive Producer and directed by Ridley Scott
- Meanwhile, contestants in BBC's 'The Apprentice' are also in Shrewsbury filming in the Quarry and The Square
- Shropshire County Agricultural and Horse Show, one of the oldest surviving agricultural shows in the country, is held at the Greenhous West Mid Showground
- Summer planting programme commences at Shrewsbury Castle with the Carpet Bed featuring a Platinum Jubilee design
- Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire, Anna Turner JP, invites all members of the public, but more especially all those affected by or on the front-line of the Coronavirus pandemic to attend the unveiling of the Covid-19 Commemorative Sculpture for the county at Shrewsbury Abbey

## June 2022

- Official celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee
- For the first time in three years, visitors are able to attend Shrewsbury in Bloom's Open evening at Shrewsbury Town Council's Weeping Cross Centre
- Hanging baskets are installed around the town
- The ninth Shrewsbury Food Festival takes place in the Quarry
- With a fortnight of non-stop arts and entertainment, the Belle Vue Arts Festival takes place for its annual event.









## A1. Overall Impression

- Abbey Gardens, beside the English Bridge, is a pocket park which has recently been renovated as part of the Town Council's capital programme of improvement works.

The park is laid out to lawn with two new DDA-compliant picnic benches, new litter bins and a number of benches which were previously in the Pride Hill Shopping Centre before its closure last year.

The trees in Abbey Gardens have been inspected and any necessary pruning works were completed during the winter period.

The planting is predominantly mature rhododendrons in the established borders with some new sustainable planting planned for the smaller borders. A new drain on the link footpaths will assist with dispersing flood water from the gardens.

- The award-winning Dingle garden provides visitors with a high-impact planting scheme and seasonal planting twice a year. Whilst the main features are the formal planted flower beds with around 30,000 plants, there is a wealth of sustainable planting in the form of trees and shrubs within the garden.

The Dingle is a roughly oval quarry garden surrounded by a beech hedge and an exterior walk created in the late 19th Century. In the Middle Ages, this area of the Quarry had been the town's 'wet' stone quarry but with the increase in use of the area as parkland, the Dingle was cleaned out and enlarged in 1880.

The Dingle has a mix of formal flower beds surrounding a cast-iron Coalbrookdale fountain, which was presented in 1889, and a pool surrounded by trees and shrubs.

- The Castle Carpet Bed is a highly visual floral feature at the entrance to Shrewsbury Castle and has a new planting scheme twice a year.

The design is planned months ahead, with Town Council staff working together on a display that highlights major events within either the town or the country as a whole, with a view to ensuring that the plants are suitable for both the design, location and the maintenance of the display.

The design for the winter/spring display featured a forget-me-not, the logo for Lingen Davies Cancer Fund, the Mayor of Shrewsbury's nominated charity for his Mayoral year.

### Shrewsbury Town Council staff used the following plants in the forget-me-not floral display

- Yellow Polyanthus
- Blue Polyanthus
- White Polyanthus
- Blue Hyacinth (Kronos)
- Yellow Daffodil (February Gold)

To help celebrate the Platinum Jubilee for Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, the design for the summer display featured the logo for the event as part of the town's celebration of this once-in-a-lifetime occasion.

- Mardol Quay Gardens is a small pocket park beside the River Severn, and is home to the iconic 'Quantum Leap' statue, which was created to celebrate the bi-centenary of the birth of Charles Darwin and unveiled in 2009. The park has fine turfed areas with stone planters, which have both seasonal and sustainable planting.

The park also provides space for memorial benches and trees.

In view of the close proximity to the river, there is also a security-coded throw line.

- Floral features around the town help to provide additional colour for both residents and visitors. The summer bedding is planted in a variety of containers, including 12 daleks with in-built reservoirs, 150 pole planters, 100 railing inserts, 50 recycled self-watering plastic barrels, 18 large sustainable self-watering timber-clad planters, 6 large-tiered planters as well as 277 hanging baskets for both commercial and council buildings.



### The floral design features:

- Alternanthera lehmannii E Green
- Alternanthera lehmannii H Bright Red
- Echeveria elegans









## A2. Maintenance of Planted Areas

- With more people staying closer to their local area as a result of the Coronavirus restrictions, the green spaces in Shrewsbury have continued to be exceptionally busy throughout the year. Local residents have enjoyed exploring those spaces they have previously taken for granted and this exceptional usage has provided Shrewsbury Town Council staff with unique issues to maintain the facilities, parks and open spaces.

Whilst there were no major events during 2021, the respite has enabled staff in the Quarry to ensure that the grass has recovered to withstand the increased use from local residents.

- Shrewsbury Town Council's Recreational and Formal Space Team maintain the recreation grounds and sports pitches. With fine turf surfaces, such as bowling greens, staff cut the grass twice a week as these areas tend to be subject to heavy use. During hot and dry conditions, grass cutting is reduced to retain some grass coverage.

Football pitches have the grass cut every two weeks. With increased rainfall in winter, there is a need to provide more aeration to allow the water to soak away as opposed to running off the surface.

With cricket squares, staff use rainwater to produce a suitable playing surface. The pitches are rolled after rain showers.

Staff use a powered brush for golf courses, which runs behind a tractor to spread the worm casts collected on the surface. This method allows staff to disperse the casts without the need to spray the surface.

- Some playing surfaces have a hard-wearing grass, which is more disease resistant, and is used for bowling greens and

croquet lawns. Town Council staff have undertaken a three-year trial of top-dressing three of the eight bowling greens with charcoal. Staff have reported positive results with less incidents of disease and more capacity for water retention.

Staff have used Biochar, which is a high-carbon, purified form of charcoal that improves the structure, aeration and water-holding capacity of soil. Its chemical stability means that it doesn't break down, which makes it a one-time application. Its porous structure provides a permanent refuge for beneficial microbiology.

The treatment used by Town Council staff has been shown to improve the health and vitality of turf, improve grass rooting, reduce irrigation costs and eliminates the need for fungicides and fertilisers.

- To improve the playing surface of football pitches, Shrewsbury Town Council has purchased its own sand-grooving machine, which cuts a groove up to 12 inches to allow rainwater to drain away. Depending on the usage of the pitch, the work will only need to be redone every 3 to 5 years. The machine also provides a financial saving as the work is now done 'in house' as opposed to employing contractors.
- At Monkmoor Recreation Ground, staff have a 'no water' policy and whilst the grass may look neglected in dry conditions, it will recover naturally. Watering to a shallow depth only causes more damage as the roots grow towards the surface and therefore dry out more quickly. Town Council staff let the grass roots achieve deeper rooting for long-term benefits of the playing surface.
- All Town Council recreation grounds and open spaces have regular litter picks by staff, especially before mowing. There is a need to ensure the grass is cut short enough to enable dog fouling to be easily spotted.





## A3. Plant Selection

- With a move towards more sustainable planting in the floral displays around town, more shrubs are being used, which helps to provide all year-round greenery as well as a contrast of the seasonal bedding.
- Following the social distancing measures introduced during the early stages of the Coronavirus pandemic, permanent planters have replaced the traffic cones along New Street in Frankwell. Shrewsbury Town Council planted the containers, with built-in reservoirs, with sustainable plants, which will provide some welcome colour within the street scene.

Residents will be working with the local Councillor to maintain the structures throughout the year.

- As part of the Shrewsbury Integrated Transport Package to improve areas in the town with little opportunity to provide planting schemes, large planters have been installed with year-round sustainable planting schemes, which help to provide some much-needed colour along the main pedestrian streets in the town centre.





## A4. Plant Quality

- Shrewsbury Town Council staff undertake a deep clean of the greenhouse once the twice-yearly bedding has been planted around the town. This helps to ensure that there are no lingering pests and diseases for the next batch of plants due in.
- Residents are encouraged to donate their unwanted self-setter trees that would otherwise be disposed of. Staff at the Town Council's Weeping Cross Centre log all the donations to enable those people who have donated the trees to find out where the trees have been planted in the county. The trees are monitored for pests and diseases by the Town Council's staff before being planted within the county.

Working with Shropshire Council, the Town Council oversees the scheme, which is a three-year project as part of Trees Outside Woodlands.

The benefits of the programme will see trees planted locally, helping to reduce 'road miles', both Councils' carbon footprint and will also provide bio-security for the local area.

- A works programme of tree maintenance has been undertaken in Shrewsbury's Grade I Listed Quarry to manage the lime tree stock within the park. The ongoing

management of these iconic trees is essential in the well-utilised public park to ensure that they can be enjoyed for many years to come. With over 1.5 million visitors each year, the tree-lined avenues help to bring huge mental health and physical well-being benefits for visitors to the 29-acre park.

The lime trees also have a major environmental role to play in the Quarry, as they help to reduce the impact of flooding and help to stabilise the riverbanks.

The Town Council's commitment to become carbon neutral by 2030 will be assisted with the retention of these mature trees with their ability to sequester carbon, helping to reduce the level of oxidants in the area.

- The Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace Team has completed the inspection of all Ash trees on Town Council land and have commenced a programme of planting around 3,000 replacement trees as close as possible to the Ash tree that has been removed to promote a continuation of habitat.

Shrewsbury Town Council is working to ensure that Ash Dieback disease is managed within the tree stock in the town to ensure that the recovery of local woodlands is protected for the future.







## Environmental Responsibility

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# B1. Local Identity

- Shropshire Council has revealed ambitious plans for the biggest redevelopment of Shrewsbury in decades. The plans for the Riverside development would fundamentally alter this key location in the town with the demolition of the Riverside Centre, Raven Meadows multi-storey car park, bus station and Pride Hill Shopping Centre. The plans are designed to improve public space and provide visitors with an improved destination to visit.
- The Mount, birthplace of Charles Darwin, is being restored to how it would have looked in the era when Shrewsbury's famous son lived there. Plans for the future include a museum to celebrate the life of Charles Darwin as well as a café. Salopians have been asked to help provide additional information on how the house would have looked.
- The restoration of the Shrewsbury Severn Bridge Junction signal box by Network Rail was recognised as the winner of the 2021 Railway Heritage Award in the Signalling Category. It is the biggest operational signal box in the world.
- Shrewsbury's Roman Catholic Cathedral has received a grant from the Government's Culture Recovery Fund to restore the giant east window which overlooks the congregation. The window was installed in 1856 for the opening of the Cathedral. The work forms part of a programme of restoration work with historic wall paintings and gothic floor tiles being discovered during the repairs.
- The restoration of Shrewsbury's Flaxmill Maltings continues, with the revitalised site due to become a new learning and enterprise quarter for Shrewsbury, with high-quality offices for the region's growing creative industries. The Grade I Listed Main Mill and Grade II Listed Kiln is due to open in 2022, with the new visitor experience and café opening on the ground floor and the top four floors available for commercial tenants. The project has been financed through a £20.7m grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, combined with additional funding from the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership, Historic England, Shropshire Council and the Friends of the Flaxmill Maltings.
- Shrewsbury BID has commissioned local artists to paint murals on more on-street internet cabinets. A mural trail has been created to encourage people to spot each one of the 14 murals around the town.  
  
The artwork has engendered a sense of pride in the street scene, with a noticeable lack of graffiti on the internet cabinets.
- Work to repair the damaged Grade II\* Listed Bear Steps Building in Fish Street started last October. The 15th Century building suffered a significant failure in its timber frame after damage sustained by a vehicle.

- Shrewsbury BID is helping to provide a glimpse into the past with a new project aimed at making the most of empty shop units. The former Greggs shop on Pride Hill and the TUI shop in Mardol have displays of information and historical photographs of how the respective streets have looked in different eras.
- Shrewsbury Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace team were contacted by users of Copthorne Park who kindly offered to spread woodchip along the paths to improve the muddy conditions. Town Council staff delivered several trailer loads of chip produced by their tree safety works to cover both sides of the park.
- Twelve new digital signs have been installed at key entry points to the town centre to provide advance information or warning messages for visitors to Shrewsbury. The electronic signs are part of the £12m externally funded Shrewsbury Integrated Transport Package and will provide information on car parking, road closures due to road works or flooding and other emergencies, providing real time updates for journeys.
- Shrewsbury BID has worked with local artist Emma Williams to provide an attractive visual feature for the empty shop front on the corner of Claremont Street and Bellstone to enhance the local area and turning empty shop units into something more creative.





## B2. Natural Environment

- Residents of Coleham have worked with the Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace Team to make improvements for wildlife at Hermitage Green. New bat and bird boxes have been installed to help wildlife in an urban setting.

New nest boxes designed specifically for house sparrows have been installed. Although these birds are still considered common, they have suffered a 60% decline in towns and cities since the 1970s. A lack of suitable nest sites in modern buildings and a reduction in insects are just two of the problems they face. Unlike other birds, they are happy to nest communally, so several sparrow boxes have been put up together.

Small log piles covered with soil, known as hibernacula, have been built around the edge of the park, which are vital for insects, mammals and amphibians to find cover during winter. Hedgehogs are particularly fond of these and are another species in decline.

A strip of 'no mow' grass area along the tree line has been left, which will enable long grasses and other plants to flower. This will give pollinators a chance to feed throughout the year and will also provide food for a host of other animals.

- An extensive project of tree works was undertaken on the long-term maintenance of the 250 lime trees in the Grade I Listed Quarry for the first time in twenty years. The work involved crown raising all the avenue-planted trees to provide adequate clearance to around 6m and crown reduce branches of selected trees over high footfall areas of the park, as well as removing epicormic basal growth and removing dead branches.

There is a need to retain these mature trees with their ability to sequester carbon helping to reduce the level of oxidants in the area.

- Trees have been planted and wildlife introduced as the redevelopment of Shrewsbury's Flaxmill Maltings continues. The trees have been planted along the northern boundary of the site and between the railway line and the mill to provide a green backdrop to an improved pedestrian and cycle path.

With a woodland belt of native trees, this will provide a nature conservation area where wildflowers will attract birds and insects, including bees and butterflies to help wildlife thrive in an urban setting.

A timber clad building will provide roosting facilities for bats.

- Shropshire Council invited applications to its Community Tree Scheme, which, in conjunction with Defra's Trees Outside Woodlands Project, will supply transplant trees to successful applicants, ready for planting during last winter. The aim is to maximise the benefits for wildlife around the county by planting trees and shrubs that could help to improve habitat continuity. The scheme is part of the Unitary Authority's ambition to make the county net zero carbon by 2030.



## B3. Hard Surfaces and Open Grass Areas

- The staff from the Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace Team were busy over the course of the winter months to ensure that access to the nature reserves was maintained. Although much of the land is wild, it is important that people can access these areas safely and easily. Town Council staff carried out a lot of work to repair and maintain the many sets of steps on their sites. This included everything from full rebuilds, to replacing handrails and refreshing stone to remove trip hazards. They also installed a few more of their rustic benches, made from fallen timber on their sites with a chainsaw mill.
- With over 10,000 music fans descending on the Quarry for the Let's Rock Shrewsbury 1980s festival, all rubbish is collected from the event as soon as it ends with a specialist cleaning company sorting out all the waste for recycling, including any tents or chairs which are left behind – these are given to charities for those people requiring temporary shelters.

Those companies inside the venue have to ensure that the impact on the Quarry is minimal, especially as the organisers are aware of its Grade II Listed status, and work with the Town Council to ensure that the park is in as good a condition as it was before the event.

No liquid waste goes into the drains on site, as these empty directly into the river. There are suitable disposal sites, but some organisers employ specialist companies who remove liquid waste from the park.

The Town Council works with the event organiser to minimise any potential damage to the grass surface. Staff leave the height of the grass slightly longer than usual to act as a cushion, thereby protecting the roots and the surface and this allows for a more speedy recovery after the event.

- Shrewsbury Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace Team were in operation following Storm Arwen. Three mobile teams were out dealing with a variety of jobs on a priority basis to ensure that roads and paths were cleared and there was no danger to people or property. Jobs included hung up branches, snapped trunks and lifted roof plates. All brash is chipped and re-used on footpaths and allotments, whilst larger items go for sale each year.
- The staff at Shrewsbury Town Council saved around 3,077 plastic trays from produce deliveries to Shrewsbury Market Hall, which have been re-used by local allotment associations and businesses. This has saved over 60 bulk bins worth of rubbish going for recycling.

Those trays not used by the allotment associations are re-used in the Town Council greenhouse when staff pot on the plug plants which are delivered. Staff find that they are a useful addition to enable them to transport and store the plants whilst growing-on in the greenhouse.





- Shrewsbury BID funded a street cleaning scheme to spruce up the streets of the town centre. As part of a rolling programme, the aim is to reinvigorate the town centre environment by ensuring the streets are kept clean and tidy by cleaning the pavements, removing chewing gum and smartening up the town centre.
- Residents found a novel way to pick litter along the River Severn with volunteers taking to canoes to collect litter in the river and along the banks. The bagged rubbish was collected by the Town Council.
- Shrewsbury-based Verve design, Shropshire's only B Corporation, helped the local community with a litter pick in the Quarry.
- The Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace Team have many miles of fencing within the nature reserves that need to be maintained, including stock netting, strained wire, post and rails amongst other items. The rails alongside a fast-flowing stretch of the Rea Brook are essential for the safety of walkers. With an unusual design for the fence, the only way to replace the rotten post was for a brave staff member to don the waders and fix it from the water side of the fence.
- All green waste and leaves collected from Shrewsbury Town Council facilities is transported to the golf course at Meole Brace for green recycling.



## C1. Year-Round Activity and On-Going Planning

- The vast majority of the food collected by the Shrewsbury Food Hub is redistributed to locals throughout the year. However, some foodstuffs are unsuitable to share with the community and the Hub works with local farmers to make sure that the food doesn't end up in landfill but will be used to feed livestock, such as pigs. And if some food is unsuitable for the pigs, the Hub works with the Street Allotment Guy to compost for use on his four sites around Shrewsbury.

Shrewsbury Food Hub saved 173 tonnes of food from going to waste last year, which in turn, saved 500 tonnes of carbon being emitted into the atmosphere. The Hub shares spare food with more than forty-five community groups and charities and supports eleven Foodshare tables each week around the town.



- Staff from Coleham Primary School cleared wasteland in the school grounds to help create a vibrant outdoor learning area for the pupils. Working with local early years business, Inside Out Learning, the plans include an adventurous assault course and low ropes trail. The project also incorporates a forest school, which includes a 'treasure station', outdoor art, den building, digging area, wildlife area and a tool station.
- Shropshire charity, Shropshire Rural Communities Charity, offers workers an eco-friendly option to get to work through its Wheels2Work scheme for residents with a small weekly charge to cover the hire of an e-bike. The initiative helps those who would otherwise struggle to get to work due to a lack of public transport.

- Shrewsbury Town Council's Countryside Unit has a regular volunteer group, which is made up of people who enjoy being outdoors, including retired people, adults with learning disabilities and young people seeking experience. With the lifting of Coronavirus restrictions, volunteers have been welcomed back to help the team with a wide variety of jobs to ensure the continued maintenance of the outdoor spaces.

- Shrewsbury holds one of three repair cafés in Shropshire which is run by the community for the community holding regular monthly sessions throughout the year. Skilled menders and talented amateurs volunteer their time and expertise to help people fix items that might otherwise be thrown away.



- The work undertaken by members of the Belle Vue Community Action Group throughout the Coronavirus pandemic and the numerous flooding incidents in the area has been recognised with an award of £1,000 in the Shropshire Large Village category in the Outstanding Community Awards for 2021. Volunteers helped support the local community during the Coronavirus lockdowns; delivered Christmas hampers during the festive season and helped with the initial set-up of the Coleham Primary School Streets programme.
- The work of the Shrewsbury in Bloom Group, Shrewsbury Town Council and its grounds maintenance team continues all year round with tree and bulb planting in the autumn; Christmas events and assisting Shropshire Council with gritting of roads and pavements in the winter when required; planting flower seeds and preparing hanging baskets in the spring ready for planting out following a full programme of horticultural work in early summer.





- Local Belle Vue resident, Ron, has picked litter for many years on a patch of land between Bellevue and the Hereford Road railway bridge. As part of his work to help improve the local area, he has ensured that the overgrown trees and shrubs have been cut back on the footpath. Over the years, he has planted daffodils and hedging, funding the plants from his own pocket, although Shrewsbury Town Council has recently assisted with the purchase of small shrubs and four trees.
- Climate Change has been the focus of a lot of work by Shrewsbury Town Council with a commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030. The new Mayoral car is electric and the Council is moving more towards introducing electric vehicles to its operational fleet. The Town Council has also moved to peat-free compost and uses water-saving planters to cut down on resources.
- Every autumn, the communities around the town work together to plant bulbs at a number of locations around Shrewsbury. The Town Council has provided local schools and allotment associations with bulbs to enhance their areas in the spring. Over 30,000 spring bulbs, including daffodils and miniature narcissus, tulips, snowdrops, bluebells, crocus and hyacinths were planted last year, with more than 6,000 bulbs planted by community groups and schools.



## Community Participation

# C2. Communication and Awareness

- As part of the Belle Vue Arts Festival last summer, the Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace Team engaged with visitors to the Rea Brook Local Nature Reserve to highlight the work that goes in to maintaining the site. Staff provided people with a tree identification quiz, wildflower search and a bug hunting exercise. Staff had also taken some of the equipment they use for a hands-on demonstration of the work that goes on behind the scenes.
- Shrewsbury Food Festival, back from a break due to Coronavirus, donates up to £1,500 to local schools so that they can build their own gardens. Five schools in and around Shrewsbury have received donations so that children can plant their own vegetables and fruit and learn about the way food is grown. The festival organisers are determined that youngsters have a better understanding of where their food comes from. The produce from some projects goes straight to the school kitchens and any leftovers are then recycled and turned into compost.

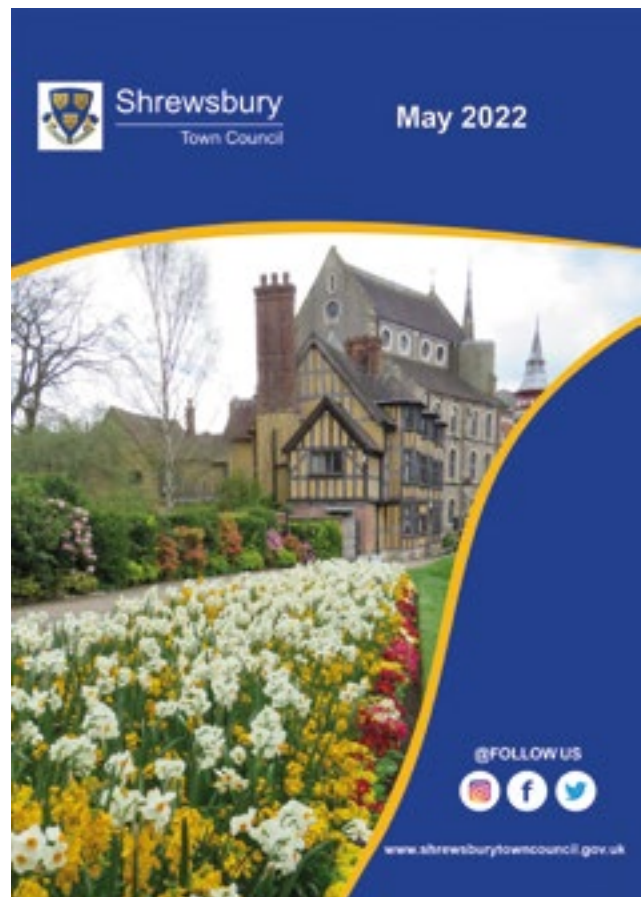
The Food Festival also works hard to develop policies to ensure that their events do not have a negative impact on the area and are working towards a "Leave No Trace" programme, where all their materials are recycled and reused where possible. Volunteers also undertake a litter

pick in the Quarry once the festival is over. Their waste management companies, Veolia and Zero Waste, support the company and help minimise the impact of their events on the local environment.

- More than twenty wayfinding columns have been installed in Shrewsbury town centre to help ensure visitors discover everything that the town has to offer. The signs are part of the Shrewsbury Big Town Partnership's Shrewsbury Integrated Transport Package project and have been designed to be very visual and easy to understand, with large maps highlighting walking times to nearby landmarks, attractions and businesses.
- Residents of Shrewsbury are invited to visit the Town Council's greenhouse for a behind-the-scenes tour as part of Shrewsbury in Bloom's annual Open Evening event for the first time since 2019. Visitors are provided with guided tours of the facility and are encouraged to ask horticultural questions of both Town Council staff and Bloom Group members.



- The Shrewsbury in Bloom Group communicates with residents using a variety of social media platforms. Communication also takes place via Shrewsbury Town Council's Facebook and Twitter pages as well as the dedicated Shrewsbury in Bloom Twitter page which promotes all things horticultural in the town. Press releases are sent out by the Town Council's in-house Communications Officer and regular features on Bloom matters are also included in the Town Council's bi-monthly newsletter.
- Whilst Shrewsbury in Bloom currently has dedicated pages on the Town Council's website to provide updates on all matters relating to Bloom, a new website has been constructed with content being uploaded to provide more information to get people interested in growing and taking great pride in their local community.  
  
The hosting services used by The Web Orchard use 100% renewable energy in its data centre.
- The Shrewsbury in Bloom Group encourages local residents to submit their iconic photos of the town as part of the annual Bloom Portfolio photographic competition. Winning entries appear on either the front or the back covers.
- Local projects within the town are supported by the Shrewsbury in Bloom Group through a grants programme, whilst schools are also supported with the delivery of plants, composts and planters.
- Shropshire Master Composters, established in 2006, is run and managed by Shropshire Council with Veolia helping to fund the scheme. A two-day foundation course is held in Shrewsbury with the second day being held at Ryton Organic Gardens in Coventry at various times throughout the year. The course covers all elements of the home composting process, including an in-depth look at the types of materials that make successful compost.









## C3. Funding and Support

- Shropshire Council submitted a bid for funding from the Government's £4.8bn 'Levelling Up' fund with plans for the demolition work and site preparations as part of ambitious plans to re-shape the entire Smithfield and Riverside areas. The project will see the most significant changes to Shrewsbury in decades and should help to provide a stimulus for growth through the provision of new public realm and infrastructure that will increase town centre footfall.
- Shropshire Council has been awarded more than £140,000 from the Department for Transport's Capability Fund to help promote cycling and walking in the county. The money will be spent on the development of infrastructure plans and on carrying out behaviour change activities, such as training and promotion. The Council has created a local cycling and walking infrastructure plan (LCWIP) and these new funds will help to promote efforts to improve, enhance and promote cycling and walking facilities in the county as well as developing a new local cycling and walking infrastructure plan for the county.
- A team from Royal Navy Submarine HMS Talent joined the Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace Rangers in September to help lay woodchip on the paths at Copthorne Park. They made light work of it, moving about 12 tonnes in a few hours! The crew also visited Hope Hospice where they have a long-standing association.

HMS Talent is a member of the Trafalgar class of nuclear submarines, commissioned for service in 1988. Having been granted the Freedom of the Rights of the town in 1989 by Shrewsbury & Atcham Borough Council, the crew has enjoyed close links to Shrewsbury, visiting the town whenever they can to undertake community projects and attend civic events, including Remembrance.

This will be one of the last visits by the crew of HMS Talent, as the submarine is scheduled for decommissioning at the end of 2022.

- The Shrewsbury Comic Art Trail secured a grant of £14,500 of Lottery funding from the Arts Council to commission and produce nine panels narrating the history of the town, written by Judge Dredd creator, John Wagner. Some of the world's most respected comic book artists, including Shrewsbury resident Charlie Adlard, co-creator and artist on the world famous The Walking Dead comics, have worked on creating their own individual interpretation of the story board.

The sites for the panels include the Dingle, Theatre Severn and Shrewsbury Library and the trail was organised by the Comics Salopia Festival and the Town Council in partnership with Shropshire Council, Shrewsbury BID and the Big Town Plan.

- Shrewsbury Town Council is working alongside Shropshire Wildlife Trust on a project to reintroduce Eurasian beavers to the county next year. Funding of £139,000 has so far been secured for the project, which will see beavers introduced to a suitable enclosure at the Old River Bed in the town. Veolia has committed £65,000 to the project, with Severn Trent (£64,000) and the Town Council (£10,000) also contributing to the project.





- Local firm, PaveAways Building Contractors, has helped Shropshire Beekeepers' Association with building a honey extraction room at the association's headquarters and apiary in Shrewsbury as part of their community benefit's programme. Built to stringent food hygiene standards, the charity will be able to sell the honey it produces at its apiary. The association also hosts training courses and runs a wildlife visitor centre to promote awareness of the role that bees play in the environment.
- Working with Shrewsbury's Big Town Plan partnership, Shropshire Council has been awarded nearly £80,000 to complete a detailed feasibility study towards the next application phase of the town's "Mini Holland" bid to improve pedestrian and cycle access to the town centre and encourage more people to use these facilities for short journeys.
- Social enterprise group, Lovelyland, has been working with Albert Road Day Centre and students from Severndale School in Shrewsbury to create a woodland mural design for a fence on a bleak alleyway with the help of local artist Saffron Russell. Shrewsbury Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace Team has provided advice and wildflower seeds to help staff and service users connect with their outdoor spaces and nature.
- Shrewsbury Food Hub received a £20,000 grant from Severn Trent Community Fund to enable the charity to continue the work they do. The funds will help them to increase their reach across the county and also contribute to their Taste Not Waste campaign, which aims to reduce food waste in people's homes, where 70% of food waste occurs.
- Shropshire Council secured £120,000 Government funding through the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to enable communities to help shape the future design of neighbourhoods as part of the Big Town Partnership.



## Key Achievements



- Shrewsbury is one of nineteen local authorities to receive a share of £1.5m for a feasibility study to assess how the town could become more pedestrian and cycle friendly, as part of the Expression of Interest funding for a Mini Holland bid from the Department of Transport.
- As part of the Coronavirus recovery plan for the town centre, partnership working has seen Shrewsbury Town Council, Shropshire Council and Shrewsbury BID using their collective resources to help the town centre bounce back after consecutive lockdowns. Shrewsbury is faring well against similar market towns and footfall is nearly back to pre-Covid days.
- Shrewsbury has retained its Purple Flag status for the seventh consecutive year, in recognition of the town's vibrant night-time economy within a secure environment for everyone.
- The Queen's Green Canopy initiative is helping to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and will help to benefit the environment for generations to come. Partnership working with Shrewsbury Town Council, Shropshire Council and the Shropshire Lieutenancy, residents of the county have been encouraged to plant a tree in their gardens as a lasting legacy in honour of the Queen's life of service. Over 750 free trees were distributed to Shropshire residents before the end of March and people have been encouraged to record their tree on the Queen's Green Canopy map.
- Receipt of a legacy donation of £10,000 from the Mayall family to help with the planting of trees in private gardens across the county as part of the Queen's Green Canopy project.
- The setting up of a tree nursery and provenance records at the Town Council's Weeping Cross Centre as part of DEFRA's Trees Outside Woodlands project. Local residents are encouraged to donate unwanted trees that would otherwise be composted. Town Council staff are growing these trees for replanting elsewhere.
- The launch of a major 'movement and public realm strategy' study, led by the Shrewsbury Big Town Plan Partnership, to encourage people to use alternative forms of transport and create the best access to the town centre and help businesses flourish.
- The Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace Team has completed the inspection of all Ash trees on Town Council land and have commenced a programme of planting around 3,000 replacement trees as close as possible to the Ash tree that has been removed to promote a continuation of habitat. The Town Council is working to ensure that Ash Dieback disease is managed within the tree stock in the town to ensure that the recovery of local woodlands is protected for the future.
- Town Council staff have completed work on procuring an electronic mapping system for the tree stock on their land.
- Shrewsbury Town Councillors voted unanimously to ban the release of sky lanterns and balloons on its property.







- The completion of the project to install forty-one solar lights in the Quarry between Porthill suspension bridge and Grey Friars bridge, providing illumination throughout the night for people using the park.
- The creation of a Climate Change standing committee, with a budget of £250,000, to replace the former Advisory Group. With external representatives from lobby groups including Friends of the Earth and Xtinction Rebellion and organisations with key environmental responsibilities like the Environment Agency, the Shropshire Wildlife Trust and the Shropshire Climate Action Partnership, the Committee has started to develop a Climate Emergency Action Plan to help the Town Council reach its commitment of being carbon neutral by 2030.
- As part of the Town Council's initiative to promote active travel within Shrewsbury, an Active Travel Group has been set up to develop and establish the most effective way of influencing on wider active travel programmes. In addition, the Town Council can help to promote the development of active travel on its own estate as part of a Shrewsbury Wide Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.
- Shrewsbury Town Council Countryside and Greenspace Team continues to work with the Shropshire Wildlife Trust on the Beaver project to reintroduce beavers on the Old River Bed.
- The installation of nine panels as part of the Comic Salopia Trail around the town, telling the story of Shrewsbury past, present and future.
- The last of Shrewsbury Town Council's streetlights have been converted to LED lights, leading to a significant reduction in electricity and maintenance costs for the local authority.
- Upgrade of BMX provision at Upton Lane Recreation Ground to provide an exciting new layout as well as a separate track for beginners helping to make the wheeled track facilities suitable for all ages and abilities.
- Shrewsbury BID's project to enhance the local visual appeal of the street scene with the painting of some of the BT junction boxes around the town. With very few incidents of graffiti, people have valued the works as pieces of art in the community.
- The creation of a new nature trail along the river from the English Bridge gardens to the Weir and on to Mousefield. With the provision of information and learning for all ages, local residents will be able to appreciate the local area in a way which is sensitive to the natural environment.
- Funding of £10,000 provided by the Town Council's Climate Change Committee to assist Shrewsbury BID with the commission of a cycle and footpath map which will complement the wayfinding boards installed around the town.
- With Coronavirus restrictions in place, Shrewsbury residents have tended to stay local, and the Allotment Associations have reported full occupancy for plots across the town.
- Shrewsbury Town Fisheries report that membership has doubled in two years, which helps to emphasise that the valuable spaces owned and maintained by the Town Council are important to local people.









## Commercial Hanging Baskets

Home - Commercial Hanging Baskets

### Blooming Baskets are a Real Bargain!


Every year, the horticultural expertise which creates the floral splendour of the Dingle gardens, located within Shaesbury to Bloom, also produces thousands of flowers for hanging baskets which help make the town streets and open spaces a floral masterpiece.

The dedicated workforce at Shaesbury Town Council's Nursery, at Meeting Cross, spend months of each year preparing for the summer when more than a thousand hanging baskets are installed around the town.

Shaesbury Town Council produces these for its various public buildings, but also grows large numbers for sale at competitive rates to the commercial sector.


A small fee is charged to businesses and organisations for the baskets, which also includes delivery, maintenance and disposal at the end of the season.

Baskets are usually installed in the first two weeks of June but limited stocks may be available throughout the summer season.



Chairman of the Shaesbury to Bloom Committee, Keith Roberts said, "The beautiful summer hanging baskets enhance the town for visitors and residents and cost out at an amazing price considering all the maintenance involved during the first two weeks of June and are just one of the many initiatives that Shaesbury to Bloom looks to do."

Over the many years Shaesbury to Bloom has proved to be a highly successful partnership between the community, the Town Council and various agencies and it has built on the Town of Flowers image - one of the results has to thank everyone for their support in making the town a better place to live, visit, work and do business to ensure when we welcome Shaesbury to Bloom that we do so with great pride."





## Key Aims and Objectives

- As a continuation of the Queen's Green Canopy project, residents in Shropshire will be invited to apply for the second tranche of free trees from September. Tree stocks are being replaced to meet demand from the county.
- In addition to residents planting trees, Shrewsbury Town Council will invite the seventeen Councillors to plant a tree in their Ward during autumn/winter 2022.
- A programme of refurbishment of the bus shelters throughout the town, including sedum roofs where possible.
- Shropshire Council is exploring whether it can set up a commercial vehicle hydrogen refuelling centre on the outskirts of Shrewsbury to significantly help to reduce emissions from buses and lorries. The site would use electricity generated from waste contractor Veolia's Energy Recovery Facility at Battlefield to turn rainwater into hydrogen and oxygen.
- To extend the Shrewsbury in Bloom planting outside the town centre with support from local groups to help maintain the floral features.
- The launch of the new Shrewsbury in Bloom website to engage with the local community, providing more information on competitions, the Bloom ethos, encourage volunteers to get involved and include 'how to' guides from Shrewsbury Town Council staff on various issues, including planting up hanging baskets.
- A Working Group has been established to work on plans for the top of the Quarry to include a newly designed contemporary garden to highlight and encourage the highest ecological environmental standards. Work will include information and interpretation of the Quarry's heritage as well as a refurbishment of the staff facilities at the horticultural depot on the site.
- The area around the Abbey Pulpit forms part of the Big Town Masterplan and will see improved sustainable planting and an information board.
- Work continues on the Beaver Project for the Old River Bed with the main works expected to take place in 2023 once the relevant licences for construction in an SSSI have been obtained.
- Work with Shrewsbury School to provide volunteers in the community to assist with community projects for the benefit of everyone.
- Shropshire Council is looking to develop a solar farm on land it owns adjacent to Weeping Cross Depot. This will mean that both the Unitary and Town Council's depots can take advantage of locally produced renewable energy at a lower price per watt than from the National Grid.
- With a number of play areas to develop in 2023, the Town Council is looking to procure a fully recycled scheme to test the robustness of new technologies for the future.
- Following a recent spate of river-related incidents, two of which resulted in loss of life, the Town Council and Shropshire Council have joined forces to commission a river safety audit, looking at vulnerabilities along the river, improving infrastructure and reprofile natural landscapes to form barriers.
- Discussions are ongoing with Shropshire Horticultural Society to promote horticulture not only as a pastime but also a career.



...are a great way of  
...ence that is included.  
...place to ensure that the  
...recidents, the business  
...our greatest assets.  
...business and

# Appendices



## The garden looked as good as the pictures and the kids loved the play area.

This is the best public park I have ever seen and we are used to paying to see gardens at historic houses that are not nearly as beautiful as these. Well worth a visit.

Aug 2021

## Fab flowers

Lovely park and so pretty with all the seasonal flowers. Lots to see for the kids and perfect park for a picnic!

Free to park on a Sunday and riverside walk lovely too.

Aug 2021

## Awesome

I'm not a Gardens type of guy and even less prone to bigging them up.... but this park - The Dingle in particular - is simply stunning. An incredible sunken garden within a beautiful park in a lovely town. Free doesn't get better than this.

Jul 2021

## A walk through heaven

What a lovely place to visit and its all free so why not? We were staying just up the road at the Loopy and strolled down to the Dingle heading for a walk by the river. This sunken garden is situated in the middle of the park and from the outside looks pretty unspectacular but once you enter it you are bombarded by stunning flower beds, water fountains and a heavenly walk around the most beautiful tended gardens. An absolute photographers feast of colour and vibrancy. Well done to the hard working gardeners who graft endlessly below the glare of Percy Thrower and to anyone who just wants to spend an hour away from the bustling world I cannot recommend a better venue.

Jul 2021



Eye-popping colour – my view of the Dingle in #Shrewsbury. I had to wait a good couple of hours before the sun came out, but when it did, it backlit the flowers, highlighting the dazzling display on offer.

ShropshireAndBeyond @ShropsAndBeyond



Hello I visited Shrewsbury on 17th August, and would just like to compliment you on your beautiful floral displays around the town and the beautiful Dingle and the quarry, what a great area for you all to enjoy. What a beautiful town you have.





## Shrewsbury Castle and Grounds



Beautiful grounds lovely and peaceful for a picnic or just a chill out in the shade. Lovely views of the town from the Tower.

Emily Gardner



A hidden gem: you could almost miss this place. I am glad we didn't. The place is so beautiful full of wonderful colours and teeming with life. A great place to sit down unwind and relax.

Sophie Mcpadden



I really enjoyed this visit. Beautiful garden, clean. Makes a nice picnic area in the middle of town.

Josianne Martin



## Shrewsbury Quarry and Dingle



This is truly lovely. The gardener's do a wonderful job. Thank you so much.

David Stubbs



This is a lovely open space for everyone to enjoy, families playing or cycling, friends gathering, couples walking. There's a riverside pathway giving views of boats and of Shrewsbury School etc, plus the usual children's playground. In the centre is the Dingle gardens designed by Percy Thrower with a lovely lake in the centre.

Laura Brown



This place is stunning, the gardens are well planted and impeccably kept, lovely to have a walk around.

Michael Powell



I am writing on behalf of St Giles Parochial Church Council to thank you very much for the two bags of daffodil bulbs that you kindly gave John Fannin. John and his helpers have planted them along the front of the church grounds for the benefit of the community, he has also given some to St Giles C of E School, Mereside C of E School and to the Scouts.



With special thanks to all those organisations, companies and individuals who contribute to Shrewsbury in Bloom, helping to improve the quality of life for visitors, residents and those who work in the town.

Shrewsbury Town Council, Riggs Hall, The Library, Castle Gates, Shrewsbury, SY1 2AS

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