



**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**Officer:** Ian Thorpe. Commercial, Markets and Events Manager

**EVENTS IN THE QUARRY**

**Purpose of Report**

To update the Committee with the events held and scheduled to be held within the Quarry.

List of Events Scheduled for 2025

| <b>Event</b>                                   | <b>Provisional Date/s</b>                            |
|--|--|
| <b>April</b>                                   |  |
| FUN FAIR - STOKES                              | Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>   |
|  |  |
| <b>May</b>                                     |  |
| MAYOR'S BANK HOLIDAY FETE                      | Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>                               |
| VE DAY (80 <sup>TH</sup> YEAR)<br>CELEBRATIONS | Thursday 8th   |
| SHREWSBURY REGATTA                             | Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> |
| WEM JUBILEE BAND                               | Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>                              |
| <b>June</b>                                    |  |
| RACE FOR LIFE                                  | Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>                               |
| ZIPPOS CIRCUS                                  | Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> to Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>   |
| LIVING WELL FESTIVAL                           | Sunday 15th  |
| SHREWSBURY FOOD FESTIVAL                       | Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> |
|  |  |
| <b>July</b>                                    |  |
| SHROPSHIRE MUSIC SERVICE                       | Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup>                             |
| SHREWSBURY 10K (10 YEAR<br>ANNIVERSARY)        | Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>                               |
| LET'S ROCK FESTIVAL                            | Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> |
| DRAGON BOAT RACING                             | Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> |

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
|                          |  |
| <b>August</b>            |  |
| SHREWSBURY FLOWER SHOW   | Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> to Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> |
| CLEOBURY MORTIMER BAND   | Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup>                            |
| WHITCHURCH BRASS BAND    | Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup>                            |
| <b>September</b>         |  |
| SEVERN BRIDGES 10K       | Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>                             |
| SHREWSBURY HALF MARATHON | Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>                            |
|                          |  |
| <b>October</b>           |  |
| OKTOBERFEST              | Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> to Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> |
|                          |  |

Now that the event calendar for 2024 has more or less drawn to a close it is pertinent to assess the year as a whole, acknowledging what went well and learning the lessons for improvements to be made in 2025.

With this aim in mind, we have already held an internal review meeting which provided an opportunity to discuss the main issues which arose during the year and identify what could be done pro-actively to address these areas of concern. This will then form a key element to build into our events strategy for 2025.

It is clear that the current events calendar provides an excellent framework to follow and that we should continue to operate within the parameters of the existing premises licence.

It has proven to be another busy and ultimately successful year with 54 individual events held within the park itself and a further 17 taking place in and around the Victorian bandstand. One of the most pleasing aspects is the broad range of events we hold from the large two-day festivals down to small charity fundraisers.

This is something we are very keen to build on in 2025 and therefore we are in the early stages of developing a 'summer season' of musical performances held in the bandstand that are free to everyone to attend and enjoy. We have already been in contact with the bands who have a long history of performing in Shrewsbury to gauge their interest and availability, whilst we are also in the process of inviting local schools, colleges, and community groups to have the opportunity to come and play.

The extremely wet weather during the last 12 months has and continues to pose some unprecedented ground condition challenges within the park, however it is very pleasing to report that all events went ahead as scheduled. We managed to minimise the impact through the

remedial work carried out by our experienced in-house grounds maintenance team, together with some careful re-planning and site adjustments.

It is pleasing to report that most of the key calendar events are already provisionally booked for 2025 and we continue to receive enquiries from the organisers of new events they would like to hold.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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