

**SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL  
RECREATION & LEISURE COMMITTEE  
6 November 2024**

**Officer:** Andy Jones – Shrewsbury Town Fisheries

**FISHERIES UPDATE**

**Purpose**

To update the Council the work of Shrewsbury Town Fisheries.

**Radbrook Pool**

A further four new replacement fishing platforms have been installed and completing all platforms for the entire pool. Additional areas of new footpath around small sections of the pool to improve access on areas that get very wet and muddy for anglers, disabled anglers and members of the public. This work is now likely to take place in the spring when the weather conditions are dryer.

An Environment Agency/ Angling Trust FIP grant was applied for earlier in the year and was not successful in round one. I was asked to reapply for this grant for the Radbrook Pool works in round two. I am pleased to report that we were successful and this will help fund the new paths and the four platforms installed. A Thank you to the Environment Agency.

**Mousecroft Pool**

After all the work and enhancements in and around the pool anglers are experiencing extremely good fishing. Further works of a new entrance gate, to match all the other fisheries, and a side swing wicket are planned in the coming week's weather permitting. The side wicket will be added to improve access for all next to the gate. Currently members of the public squeeze through a small gap between the existing gate and the fence.

**Coaching for Juniors and Adults 2025**

Plans are under way to work with the Canals and River Trust next year alongside the Angling Trust. This will further enhance our coaching facility and events for next year. A meeting is planned in November and coaching events and actions agreed in plenty of time ready for the new season. The enthusiasm and positivity is really impressive with our coaching team. A big well done to them all.

**Oxon Pool**

Of late we have experienced high water levels that have been quite substantial. We seem to be experiencing more land run off than before and the sluice has been clear of debris but now doesn't seem to cope with the volume of water entering the pool. There is also a concern of high levels of ammonia during our regular water testing that we do on all our pools. We are looking into this at present with the help of the Environment Agency and I will report on our findings. Something somewhere has changed here.

**Quarry & County Ground**

Currently in the process of looking at the tree plan with respect to angling access around the platforms. This has been delayed due to personal reasons. This will be submitted to Mike Pugh as soon as possible. The other importance of clear access around the platforms is river safety for the deployment of throw lines or life rings. Clear overhead access is required for the deployment of these devices if and when needed in an emergency.

**Sydney Avenue**

Contacted recently by the West Midlands Fire Brigade Rescue with respect to them launching the boat at Sydney Avenue beach area during an emergency. They recently had a problem due to camper vans blocking the easy access to the river area they use during an emergency. Our bailiffs have been informed to keep the area clear of all anglers but struggle with camper van folk. This has been problematic year on year and we need a solution. We work with the emergency services in any way we can. I believe they have tried to make contact with Shropshire Council about this. Maybe some appropriate signage may be possible?

**Fisheries Plans for 2025**

I am currently looking at further plans for next year and will report on them once concluded.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (i) That the contents of the report are noted.**