

TWIGWORTH NEWS



Merry Christmas Everyone!



The Twigworth Parish Council would like to wish all residents and their families a Very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year



Chairmans Christmas Message



Twigworth faces its share of challenges, but also has exciting prospects for the future. In what is my third stint as Chairman I want to ensure knowledge and experience is passed on to what will hopefully be fresh faces on our Council before long! I will continue my work in holding the authorities to account for flooding and sewerage failures, but my brief will be wider than that, dealing with all manner of things that can affect our wellbeing.

John, our Vice Chairman, in his Christmas message has detailed some of our achievements and remaining targets. Twigworth is a rapidly growing community with an increased need for various facilities, which we as a council are pressing for. Our role is to support projects which are important to this community. If you have something you want to raise, why not drop me an email. In the meantime have a very happy Christmas, and all the best for 2025!

Chairman Twigworth Parish Council - Cllr George Sharpley



New Parish Councillor

The Parish Council would like to re-introduce and welcome back, our new member of the council!

Cllr George Sharpley

Some of you may recall George, as a previous Parish Councillor, he brings extensive local government experience to the council and is familiar with local issues, especially on flooding and planning.

We have lost an Elf in this Newsletter

Can you help find our lost Elf he has an important job to do with the presents?



Hint: Ask the kids to help!



Editors Christmas Message



As we come to the end of another year and the festive season starts to get into full swing, I'm sure that you will all be looking forward to relaxing and spending some quality time with your family and friends over the holiday period.

While Christmas can be a very special time of year for many of us, it can also be a lonely one for others, so please take a bit of time to check in on friends and neighbours who may not have family around at this time of year.

We should also remember, with gratitude, everyone who will be working over this holiday period, particularly those in our emergency services and hospitals, our sincerest wishes to them for a peaceful and happy festive period.

Twigworth is a fast changing community, this year has again seen many changes, we have already doubled in size compared to a few years ago, with that brings many challenges, we started out as a small village in the 13th century and for the next few hundred years not much happened, then just before 2020, new housing developments with up to 1000 homes were approved and everything since has changed!

Twigworth was never prepared for such a big change so quickly, the Church of St Matthew had recently closed, at a time when the community started to grow and was put up for sale by the Church Commissioners, there was no Village Hall, or indeed any other community facility where residents could meet socially, which is still the case today, we are however fortunate to have our Local Centre with the CoOp and Janes Pantry but three of the units remain vacant after 3-years, residents are calling out for other outlets, such as a Pharmacy, Hair Salon, Fast Food Outlet ... the Parish Council are acutely aware of the need to provide more and are actively raising this concern.

We have had some successes in the last year, we were able to get a grant from the Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) to purchase a Defibrillator, and with the kind assistance of Janes Pantry, we were able to site this at the Local Centre. Also, along with Tewkesbury Borough Council and the Developer (Vistry), we were able to secure several dog waste bins and signage around the community... more is needed though as we continue to expand further! For the residents who have had to wait in all weathers for their buses on the A38 near the Oakwood Hotel, we have pursued GCC and bus shelters are now being installed.... Twigworth Green residents though are still waiting for their Bus Shelter which the Council is pursuing!

Unfortunately, we failed to convince the Post Office that we needed a Red Post Box at Twigworth Green, despite, numerous letters, media support, a petition and the involvement of our previous MP.

We can though look forward to the Developers completing their housing construction, with the Multi-Use Games Area and Sports Fields at Twigworth Green, this should please our local sports enthusiasts and which hopefully will provide a facility for social gatherings.

There are still many challenges that face Twigworth but rest assured, the Parish Council and its Councillors will work diligently to deliver on the things that are of concern to our community.

Finally, on behalf of Twigworth Parish Council, I would like to wish all residents and their families, a very happy, healthy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year."



Editor & Vice-Chair Twigworth Parish Council - Cllr. John Redfern

Parish Council agrees Precept for 2025-26

Each year, Twigworth Parish Council carries out a review of their budgetary (precept) requirements for the following year and then submit to Tewkesbury Borough Council for inclusion in the following tax year's Council Tax bill.

At the November Parish Council meeting, the Council approved its budget and precept requirements for 25/26 in the sum of £25k.

The Council considered future expansion of the Parish and the role of the Council in supporting the community.

The Council continues to its develop policies and practices to meet professional standards of local Councils, including developing the role of the Clerk and Financial Officer to advise the Council on its policies and to ensure that the practices agreed are lawful and carried out safely and to the best standards, this will include upgrades to its website and email domains.

There is a strong desire for the Parish Council to secure and improve facilities for all the residents of Twigworth.

Whilst setting a prudent budget which will allow the Parish Council to achieve the targets and actions over a 4 year period, the Council is also looking at securing grants and funding from other sources.

The Council are working towards securing community assets such as, additional waste bins, bus shelters, notice board, better highway signage, safer speed limits and working with other agencies and local Councils to review the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The Parish Council feel it is important to establish a community identity for Twigworth and are committed to developing means of community engagement to ensure that the views and opinions of all the residents will be listened to.

Planning Applications

Planning Application Ref 23/00605/APP Address: Land Off Brook Lane Twigworth/Down Hatherley

Proposal: Application for the approval of reserved matters pursuant of outline 21/00976/OUT for residential development (up to 160 dwellings) and associated works including demolition, infrastructure, open space and landscaping with vehicular access from the A38

Planning Application 24/00833/APP Address: Phase Seven, Whittle Gardens, Innsworth Lane, Innsworth, Gloucester

Proposal: Approval of reserved matters in respect of access, appearance, landscape, layout and scale, pursuant to planning permission 15/00749/OUT for the erection of 136 dwellings, hard and soft landscaping, car parking including garages, internal access roads, and associated works on Phase 7 on land north of Innsworth Lane, Innsworth

Twigworth News - Free

Did you know that you can receive your own copy of the **TWIGWORTH NEWS** for **FREE** every month?

As part of our Community Engagement Policy, the Council publishes this monthly newsletter, which is also published on our website and social media.

If you visit our website, you can subscribe for **FREE** and make sure that you never miss a copy of the Twigworth Newsletter, just enter your email address below and we will send you a personal copy!

It's FREE!



Defibrillator Used

Earlier this month, our Defibrillator at Janes Pantry was used in an emergency by the South West Ambulance Service.

Hopefully we may have saved a life.... as the Defibrillator was there first with the ambulance and paramedics arriving 10 minutes later... the best chance of survival is applying shocks within 4 minutes.

Christmas Crackers!

What is Santa's favourite pizza?

One that's deep-pan, crisp and even!

Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?

A Mince Spy!

How did the ornament get addicted to Christmas?

He was hooked on trees his whole life!

What is the best Christmas present in the world?

A broken drum, you just can't beat it!

Why is it getting harder to buy Advent calendars?

Because their days are numbered!

What's green, covered in tinsel and goes ribbet ribbet?

Mistle-toad!



Twigworth Remembrance - Saturday 9th November

Thank you to everyone in our community who attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Church of St Matthew on Saturday November 9th.



Wreaths were laid at the War Memorial by Cllr George Sharpley, Chairman of Twigworth Parish Council and Mark Pavely, Vice Chair of the Gloucester Branch of The Royal British Legion.

The ceremony was led by Rev Joe Knight of the Seven Towers Benefice and supported by Mark Pavely RBL and Cllr John Redfern, who read the names of those remembered here at Twigworth.



Tam Coleman ex Royal Signals Pipe Major, played a lament Flowers of the Forest which made for a very moving ceremony.

A very special thank you to all the children and staff at the Mary Ps Nursery for their lovely poppy tribute.

Special thanks to Rev'd Joe Knight, Mark Cavely, Gloucester Branch of the Royal British Legion Vice Chairman, our, Pipe Major, Tam Coleman and the Twigworth Parish Councillors.

We Will Remember Them

Know your Councillors!

The Parish Council consists of 5 volunteer councillors who are democratically elected by local vote or “co-opted” every 4 years.

To be honest, we don't receive much feedback, our meetings are poorly attended and we only receive occasional emails, so we would love to hear your views about how you think our Parish Councillors are doing!

We get involved in all sorts of community issues and we try and do our best to assist and achieve a successful outcome for everyone.



Cllr George Sharpley - Chairman
cllrsharpley.twigworthpc@gmail.com



Cllr John Redfern - Vice Chairman
cllrredfern.twigworthpc@gmail.com



Cllr Elaine Watson
cllrwatson.twigworthpc@gmail.com



Cllr Graham Bocking
grahambocking@msn.com



Cllr Mike Davies
mberesforddav1947@gmail.com

Tewkesbury Choral Society Presents Christmas Music at Tewkesbury Abbey

Saturday 7 December 2024



Gloucester Cathedral Christmas Experience at Night

Friday 6 - Saturday 7 December 2024

Also on 14, 19 - 21 December

Have you visited this spectacular building at night?

Everything looks and feels just a bit more beautiful after dark in the Cathedral at this time of year.

Enjoy the decorated Cathedral by night with live music provided by the Cathedral musicians and friends.

Don't forget your camera!

Cinderella at The Roses Theatre Tewkesbury

From Saturday 30
November 2024

to

Saturday 4
January 2025



Aladdin at the Everyman Theatre Cheltenham

From Friday 29
November 2024

to

Sunday 12
January 2025



Next Parish Council Meeting

Thursday 2nd January @ 19:00 - 21:00



This meeting is open to the public if you wish to hear what's going on in and around Twigworth or to raise any issues or ideas.



The Cheltenham Ice Rink

From Friday 29
November 2024

to

Sunday 5
January 2025



Merry Christmas and special thanks to all the local businesses and housing developers who are supporting our community here at Twigworth!

Janes Pantry

Modern Heroes Car Sales

Mid-Counties Co-Op

*Vistry, Bloor & Wain Homes Sales Office
Teams and Site Contractors*

Gateway Estate Management



New Year Resolutions - 2025

The Parish Councillors will continue to

- ✦ represent the residents of Twigworth to the best of our abilities
- ✦ hold the Tewkesbury Borough Council and Gloucestershire County Councils to account on the delivery of the S106 Agreements much needed infrastructures eg. School, Multi Use Games Area, Children's Play Areas, Bus Shelter, Dog Waste and General Litter bins on the new developments
- ✦ lobby for a speed reduction on the A38 through our village from 40mph to 30mph
- ✦ lobby for other road safety improvements along the A38
- ✦ lobby for a speed limit of 20mph on all new residential roads
- ✦ deliver on our 4-Year Plan
- ✦ raise concerns on behalf of residents with the new housing developers

Gloucester Quays Christmas Markets



Saturday 16
November to
Sunday 15
December 2024

Gloucester Cathedral Carols On The Hour



Saturday 7 December,
11am-3.30pm

Carols on the Hour returns for another year, and our Cathedral choirs are ready to lift your spirits with joyful festive music! Enjoy 30-minute performances on the hour, every hour, between 11am and 3:30pm.

Christmas Day Swim at the Cheltenham Lido!



Gloucester Quays Outdoor Ice Rink



Saturday 23
November 2024
to Sunday 5
January 2025