



Twigworth Green Bus Shelter - Cllr Redfern

How difficult is it for a Building Developer to provide and install a much needed and promised Bus Shelter?

At the Planning Stage of the Twigworth Green Development, a S106 Transport Agreement was agreed on 7 July 2017, between the Developers and Gloucestershire County Council, part of that agreement covered the provision of a Bus Stop & Shelter at Ironbridge Road... the agreement stated

“...The Owners undertake, prior to the First Occupation of the 100th Dwelling, or two years after the First Occupation of the 1st Dwelling (whichever is the earlier), to provide a turning facility sufficient to accommodate a 12.8m MAN 18.240 single deck bus together with a bus stop incorporating bus boarder kerbing and a shelter at the access into the Land from Twigworth Road and being no further than 250 metres from the Land's access point at Twigworth Road...”

The Twigworth Parish Council have an email trail requesting this Bus Shelter going back as far as November 2021!

Well... here we are, now at the end of March 2025, still no Bus Shelter, with the development in its final phases of construction and residents still waiting!

VISTRY have repeatedly been chased on this Bus Shelter, time and time again, we have been informed by them, that it has either been ordered, or they were awaiting an invoice, or awaiting delivery... and most recently... the latest excuse (sorry update), is that they are trying to agree a suitable location.... hang on a minute... we have a bus stop lay-by don't we, it is marked “Bus Stop”... there's a clue there somewhere ... isn't there?



Stop Press! ... we are now being informed that the design is wrong!

Our Parish Clerk has been chasing this weekly... Borough and County Councillors have got involved along with Council Officials... yet still no Bus Shelter... I guess we will have to wait another week for next weeks excuse....

It beggars belief that this can be so difficult ... from a professional development company, such as VISTRY... residents deserve better... much better... and it is not just bus shelters... the residents had to wait and wait for the dog waste bins after a similar battle... even now the Twigworth Green development has only 3 litter bins... one at the A38 Roundabout and two at the Play Area....

VISTRY GROUP state that “...they build more homes in the UK than anyone else and that they do far more than that, they build our homes responsibly and develop places people love to live, including communities with play parks and orchards through to schools and allotments...”

Twigworth Residents (your customers)...say “we would love to have our much needed and promised Bus Shelter with some Litter Bins too... which we expected and you agreed to ...”

VISTRY ... PLEASE SORT IT OUT!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PAGEANTMASTER

On 8 May 2025, we mark the **80th anniversary of VE Day**, our nation will unite to celebrate 80 years of peace since the end of World War II in Europe. VE Day 80 is not only a tribute to those who fought for freedom but also a powerful reminder of the resilience and unity that have defined our country ever since.

At 9:30pm, beacons and Lamp Lights of Peace will shine across the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, and UK Overseas Territories—symbolising the enduring strength of our communities. From city squares to village greens, we will stand together in gratitude, honouring the sacrifices that secured our freedom.

We encourage everyone to take part—raise the VE Day flag at 9am, gather in streets, gardens, town halls, clubs and pubs. Let this be a day of joy, reflection, and celebration. As part of the Commonwealth's 2.4 billion people, we reaffirm our commitment to peace, ensuring future generations understand and cherish its value.

Together, we honour the past and celebrate a future built on unity, hope, and peace.



Bruno Peek
Bruno Peek CVO OBE OPR
Pageantmaster
VE DAY 80



On behalf of all residents, Twigworth Parish Council will be raising the VE 80 Day flag at 9am, at the Church of St Matthew, to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day on May 8, 2025, to honour this historic milestone.



VE Day 80 Proclamation

Oyez, Oyez, Oyez

Eighty years ago today the United Kingdom and its allies from around the globe celebrated VE Day – the end of the war in Europe.

Today as we come together to commemorate what came to be known as VE Day our thoughts turn to thanksgiving and remembrance of those millions that gave so much to achieve the freedom we all enjoy today.

We remember those we lost, those who were wounded or scarred, those whose lives were forever changed by war. Nobody was immune from the impact of that terrible conflict.

Let us pause to remember their sacrifice.

We reflect too upon the words of our late and glorious Queen, Elizabeth – “Never Give Up, Never Despair”.

And so we offer thanksgiving for the selflessness of those who gave up so much in order that future generations should enjoy the blessings of freedom, democracy and peace.



God Save the King



Communal Waste Facilities



At Twigworth Green there are a number of properties with communal waste facilities, some of which are being abused by some of the residents who use them.

If waste is not disposed of correctly, it can quickly lead to bigger problems, rats, mice, maggots etc...it can also become a fire risk.

Tewkesbury Borough Council Waste Crews **will not empty any bins** that do not have the correct waste or if bins are overfull and the lids are not closed.

Residents of rented properties can be expected to be charged for any waste that is not collected, which requires Landlords to contract other agencies to remove it.

Please manage your waste responsibly, follow the waste guidelines below, it is in everyone's interest, and your health and safety.



Recycling | Fortnightly

Use for glass, plastic pots, tubs, trays and bottles, paper and card, cans, tins, aerosols and foil

Empty and rinse all containers to remove any food remnants.

Recycling must be loose – do not use carriers or black sacks.

Check before you chuck! Wrong items can prevent your bin being emptied.



Yes please ✓	No thanks ✗
Plastic bottles, tubs, trays and containers	Food waste
Glass jars and bottles	Textiles
Tins, cans, clean foil and empty aerosols	Nappies
Clean, dry paper and card	Soft plastics, polystyrene and crisp packets
Tetra Pak and cartons	Plastic film from food containers

Find your collection dates at [tewkesbury.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling](https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling)
Bins and caddies must be on the kerbside by 7am on your scheduled collection day.

Food recycling | Weekly

Use for all food waste including peelings, egg shells, bones and plate scrapings

Recycling food waste turns it into biogas and soil conditioner for local farms.

Caddies can be lined with compostable bags, newspaper or old plastic bags such as bread bags.

When your kitchen caddy is full, empty the contents into the larger outdoor caddy.



Yes please ✓	No thanks ✗
Fish, meat, bones and stale pet food	Food packaging of any kind
Leftovers, mouldy and gone-off food	Large volumes of oil or milk
Bread, rice and pasta	Nappies
Fruit and veg peelings	Garden waste
Teabags and coffee grounds	Pet waste

Need a replacement caddy? Order online at [tewkesbury.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling](https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling)
Bins and caddies must be on the kerbside by 7am on your scheduled collection day.

Waste | Fortnightly

Only use for what can't be recycled

Please only throw away items you can't recycle.

We cannot collect excess bags of waste or bins where the lid cannot close because of the amount of waste.

Please use your food caddy for food recycling.



Yes please ✓	No thanks ✗
Nappies, wetwipes and tissues	Recyclable items
Compostable cutlery and coffee cups	Textiles
Soft plastic film from food containers	Batteries
Crisp packets	Small electrical or electronic items
Polystyrene	Garden or food waste

We may issue special instructions about side waste in adverse weather conditions such as floods or snow. Up to date information will be issued on our website and social media.

Bulky item collections

Use for large household items such as furniture, mattresses, white goods and large electricals

We collect up to six items per booking.

This is a charged-for service. For information on discounts for those in receipt of certain benefits please call 01684 295010.

We've partnered with the charity Orchard Recycling, to recycle and reuse as many items as possible. Please try to protect items from the weather.

furniture	white goods	mattresses	bikes	computers & televisions
beds	electricals	sofa	carpet and lino	wardrobes

Alternatively, you can take household items to your nearest Household Recycling Centre for free. You must pre-book your visit. To find out more please visit [gloucestershirerecycles.com](https://www.gloucestershirerecycles.com)

To book a collection visit [tewkesbury.gov.uk/bulky-item-collection](https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/bulky-item-collection) or call 01684 295010

Small electrical and electronic items recycling

Use for broken electronic toys, disposable vapes, mobile phones, small kitchen appliances, cables.

Place all items into a carrier bag (please do not tie it up) and place it at the side of your recycling bin on the day of collection.

We cannot take larger items such as TVs at the kerbside due to lack of space on the vehicles.



Yes please ✓	No thanks ✗
Small kitchen appliances	TVs and monitors
Household appliances (hair dryers, radios, power tools etc)	Lightbulbs or fluorescent tubes
Personal care (shavers, electric toothbrushes etc)	Larger appliances
Cables, chargers and strings of lights	Batteries
Toys and games consoles	

On some occasions our collection cage may be full. If your items are not collected please keep it and put it out with your next recycling collection.

At time of printing, we are not able to offer this service to residents with communal bins. Please visit [tewkesbury.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling](https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling) for up to date information.

Frequently asked questions

- Q When do my bins get collected?**
A Go online to [tewkesbury.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling](https://www.tewkesbury.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling)
- Q Why can't I put carrier bags or black bags in my recycling bin?**
A Our Materials Recycling Facility can only recycle the right items. Our crew can't check inside carrier bags to see what is inside, and will not empty a recycling bin if it contains bags or other 'non-target' materials such as polystyrene, nappies etc.
- Q I had some guests staying and have some extra waste. Can I put this out with my bin?**
A No. We don't take excess waste, or bins with open lids. You can take extra waste to the Household Recycling Centre.
- Q I haven't got time to keep bringing my bin in and out. Can I leave my bin out on the kerbside?**
A No. Bins block pedestrian access to pavements. Bins must be out no earlier than the night before collection, and moved from public spaces as soon as possible after they are emptied.
- Q Where does the recycling go?**
A Visit [gloucestershirerecycles.com](https://www.gloucestershirerecycles.com) to find out what happens to our waste, recycling and food waste.

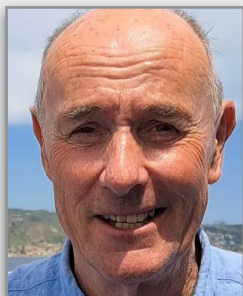
JUST ASK THE
WASTE WIZARD

Use the waste wizard search to find out alternative ways you can repair, reuse, recycle or dispose of your household items.

[gloucestershirerecycles.com/waste-wizard/](https://www.gloucestershirerecycles.com/waste-wizard/)

FLOOD-WATCH with George Sharpley

Chairman of Twigworth Parish Council



Severn Trent Water are reportedly conducting a review into the sewerage system across Twigworth and Down Hatherley.

This was triggered by a clause in the planning approval for more houses at Chestnut Tree Farm (between Wallsworth and Sandhurst Lane).

The decision included a demand that the wider sewerage system be upgraded before new houses were connected to it.

The developers tried to get around this by applying to have the clause removed; the good news is, that in February, the Planning Committee at Tewkesbury Borough Council refused, despite their own planning officers' recommendation to permit.

All too often in these circumstances, such 'reviews' are cosmetic PR exercises.

The fact is, Twigworth's sewerage network is a busted flush, quite literally; so it's important we hold Severn Trent Water to account.

What adds salt to the wound is their annual charge has just risen by 33%, is that because of the cost of tankers which repeatedly come and suck out waste from manholes?

That is becoming the new norm, and it's not acceptable.

Why should we put up with the smell, danger, noise and congestion from these tankers – and in some cases, they come along after problems have arisen for people in their houses.

Not so long ago, one of the developers was pinning the blame for a blockage of Twigworth Green's new sewer on the accumulation of householders' debris.

I cannot speak for every individual household, but I very much doubt that to be the case with a new pipeline; such items may block individual drains, and in time may cause similar to larger pipes but in just two or three years? ... Pull the other one!



Your experience and evidence of flooding or failed drainage is important to us.

Please contact me at gdasharpley@gmail.com

Tewkesbury Borough Council Planning Committee - 18th February 2025**Councillor Sharpley's "full address" to the Planning Committee:**

"The Planning Inspector's condition stated that the new houses should not be connected to the public sewer until the sewerage network had been upgraded.

The applicant wants to remove this and replace his ruling with the local planning authority, this council, to act as arbiter of whether their drainage plans are satisfactory and such a change won't make much difference, apparently, as the drainage will still be regulated.

Really? ... If that's the case why go to all the bother and expense of trying to remove the condition?

Why the wriggle?

The developer's plans for drainage will no doubt pass muster. But that is entirely missing the point. It's the additional pressure off-site where the problem lies, in both Twigworth and Down Hatherley, where the drainage is closely linked.

It is alarming that the Inspector seems to have a better grasp of what the problem is than our own planning department.

The reason why he put the condition there in the first place was because he saw widespread evidence, which we showed him, of faeces mixed with floodwater, forced up drains and manholes by surface water which routinely floods the sewerage network.

The developer's plans for drainage will no doubt pass muster. But that is entirely missing the point. It's the additional pressure off-site where the problem lies, in both Twigworth and Down Hatherley, where the drainage is closely linked.

Whenever we have heavy or persistent rain, floodwater enters the crumbling network of pipes and pumps, and both villages suffer. Frequently.

It is alarming that the Inspector seems to have a better grasp of what the problem is than our own planning department; the reason why he put the condition there in the first place was because he saw widespread evidence, which we showed him, of faeces mixed with floodwater, forced up drains and manholes by surface water which routinely floods the sewerage network.

Severn Trent's response, if we're lucky, is to send in tankers to scoop up the poo and take it away, with a lot of smell, danger, noise and congestion. And that's days after the problem has exploded all over the street, into people's gardens and houses, and back up into their bathrooms.

Take this from a young mum in Twigworth just a few weeks ago: "My home has been contaminated with sewage more than once. My baby's possessions were covered in human waste. I was made to feel it was a freak accident and maybe even my own fault."

The Inspector's condition provides critical leverage for the much needed upgrade.

You know that Severn Trent has a statutory obligation to accommodate new houses, but you also know that this council has no statutory power to enforce Severn Trent to do anything at all; so the Inspector's ruling is a line in the sand for us all. Many many people have pinned their hopes to it.

Do not turn your back on a community that urgently needs this to remain in place to protect their health and well-being."

Cllr. George Sharpley

Down Hatherley News

New Parish Council Website

Down Hatherley Parish Council have now got a new website: <https://downhatherley-pc.gov.uk>

Point your mobile phone camera at this QR Code at follow the link:



Down Hatherley Village Hall



Looking for a venue for parties, anniversaries, meetings, dance or fitness classes or club activities... the Down Hatherley Village Hall is available to hire.

The Village Hall is set in a pleasant rural location yet within easy reach of Churchdown, Cheltenham, and Gloucester. and only 10 minutes from the M5 motorway.

There is a well equipped kitchen suitable for commercial caterers, or for the self-catered party. It offers the perfect venue for parties, private and corporate meetings, classes and other events. There is easy wheelchair access. You can drive right up to the double doors to unload equipment.

The hall has free WiFi.

Visit our website for more details:

<http://downhatherleyvillagehall.org.uk/>

Planning Applications

25/00030/FUL - The Bungalow DH Lane

Single storey dwelling with associated garage - objection submitted including further email to planning officer re inaccuracies – PC to look at Highways comment for accuracy regarding access. Application has many errors and residents have sought clarification on consultation on non-accurate application

24/00872/FUL - The Bungalow DH Lane

Single storey extension and new garage – objection submitted. Amended description now circulated but PC comments will be updated and resubmitted

24/00457/FUL - Chestnut Tree Farm

Variation of Condition 12 (foul drainage) of Appeal Ref: APP/G1630/W/23/3326538, Application Ref 22/01343/OUT - Outline application for the erection of up to 85 dwellings with public open space, landscaping and sustainable drainage system (SuDS). All matters reserved except for means of vehicular and pedestrian access from Sandhurst Lane and a pedestrian access on to the A38.

Committee decision - NOT PERMITTED

25/00046/FUL - Parcel of land DH Lane

Removal/variation of conditions 10 & 11, planning permission 19/00771/OUT, to reword conditions

Objection submitted

25/00158/FUL - Caerleon, Tewkesbury Rd

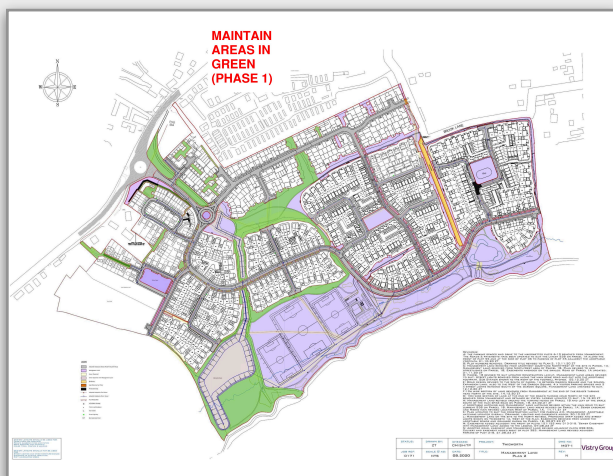
Two storey extension to side (part retrospective); delegated to Clerk under delegated authority to submit comments

Twigworth Green News

Meeting with Gateway Management Estate Contractor

Following concerns from Twigworth Green residents, Cllr Redfern arranged a meeting/site walkabout with the Gateway Management contractor responsible for the Phase 1 Estate grounds maintenance, Tony Benger Landscaping Ltd (TBL), to gain a better understanding of the areas of responsibility, as residents were unclear about this, also to review the damaged saplings, hedgerows, litter and dog waste bins.

You will note, that on the site plan, there are areas alongside and within the green areas that are different colours, these areas, are still with Vistry and have not as yet been transferred to Gateway, some of these areas include:



Comfrey Gardens main square; within the SUDs Pond fenced area; the Swale in front of 41-57 Ironbridge Road; around and in front of Linden/Bovis Sales Office; Carrington Road

TBL reconfirmed their areas of responsibility, Vistry, Severn Trent Water, Residents and other Landowners to be contacted about their areas

Within the Gateway area of responsibility (green areas on site plan), many saplings had been damaged or broken, either from high winds or where strimming had caused irreparable damage, by tearing the bark and terminating the flow of nutrients to maintain growth; there are also many supports or ties loose or missing.

TBL had carried out their own audit and had submitted a quote to Gateway for replacing damaged and dead saplings... Gateway had not yet made a decision.

Note! ... much of the sapling damage had been caused prior to the handover to Gateway by Vistry and residents should not have to foot this bill... Vistry should have handed over all areas of the estate in good order... this was not the case... reports of damaged saplings in these areas had been submitted to Vistry as back as April 2023.

Hedgerows were reviewed and several areas are still with the Developer (Vistry) and not handed over to Gateway, these areas are: Weaver Crescent, construction debris and barbed wire along and inside the hedgerow; Halfren Drive, construction debris, old wire fence, along and inside the hedgerow, the health of hedgerow is of concern, with many gaps and the grass verges had been damaged by a tractor while cropping hedges, now pooling with water.

Play Area, litter bins are routinely being missed for servicing - TBL stated that these are serviced twice a month (not necessarily fortnightly)... TBL agreed to closely monitor as warmer weather will increase usage

Dog Waste bin at SUDS requires additional or larger as currently is full to overflowing weekly - this is a popular dog walking route - TBL are providing a quote for Gateway

Children's Play Area Gateway Sign - TBL to replace signage

New Parish Noticeboard

The Parish Council have recently purchased a new and much larger Noticeboard for the community, which will soon be erected at the MidCounties Co-Op, this will be a more convenient and central location for all residents and visitors.

The Noticeboard in the A38 Lay-by will be discontinued after the new noticeboard is erected, mainly due to its location and dampness, which is unsuitable for ink-jet generated notices.

The Noticeboard at the Orchard Park bus stop shelter, although it will remain, it is limited in size and is insecure and often abused, some notices may still be posted here but the main noticeboard will be at the Co-Op.



Planning Application

**25/00155/FUL - Old Twigworth Store
Tewkesbury Road Twigworth.**

Tewkesbury Borough Council have received a Planning Application for the construction of a detached garage with ancillary accommodation.

Twigworth Parish Council raised no objection.

Local Issues - Under Review

The following issues have been brought to the attention of the Parish Council and are currently being investigated:

- ◆ Awaiting Vistry to install the Twigworth Green Bus Shelter
- ◆ Litter issues around the bus stop and across the development

Next Parish Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Twigworth Parish Council will take place on:

Thursday 8th May @ 19:00 - 21:00

Down Hatherley Village Hall

**This meeting is the Parish Council
Annual General Meeting and Parish
Assembly.**

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.

Church of St Matthew

The tattered union flag has now been replaced.

God Save the King!



Twigworth Green

Porthill Close, the flooded path has now been attended to by Vistry - we await the next wet weather to see if it has worked!