



## 2026 Happy New Year! 2026

The Twigworth Parish Council would like to wish everyone a very happy, peaceful and prosperous New Year.

We would also like take this opportunity to thank residents for their support throughout the past year.

## Failure of Sewage Drains

In the recent wet period, sewerage drains once again failed in certain parts of the village.

With a number of housing projects now hoping to connect to the public sewer – and add yet more pressure to the system – it is vital that we keep the planning authorities up to speed with the issues we face.

Severn Trent Water have made it clear that upgrades are due, but do not appear to have any plans for an overhaul.

If you have experienced problems, or seen them in other parts of the village, please contact the Parish Council.

The same goes for any other type of flooding.

Severn Trent Water – please consider this resolution for the new year:

**Keep our village clean !**

## Brook Lane

Down Hatherley Parish Council has successfully lobbied Gloucestershire Highways to install signs on the A38 at Brook Lane indicating that it is a bridlepath and is essentially a dead end.



## Littering

How sad it is that we still seem to have a small minority of people living at Twigworth Green who seem to think it perfectly acceptable to throw away their used bottles of alcohol, cans and other litter just about anywhere they choose.

There is much evidence of this, in particular at the Twigworth Green Bus Stop and Barley Drive area around the Local Centre and estate footpath areas or under the many hedgerows.



Twigworth Green residents deserve better and this type of behaviour is completely unacceptable.

Tewkesbury Borough Council is committed to fighting environmental crime and taking action against those responsible, to enable residents and visitors of our borough, feel proud and safe.

The provision of litter bins and their servicing does not come for free either, everyone at Twigworth Green pays for this in their Council Tax or Estate Management Fee.

It is the responsibility of everyone to dispose of their litter correctly, even if means taking it home or waiting to find an appropriate litter bin.

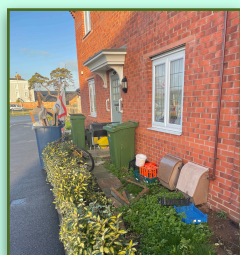
**PLEASE ACT RESPONSIBLY WHEN DISPOSING OF YOUR LITTER!**

**RESPECT YOUR COMMUNITY**

## Waste Recycling Bins – Please be Neighbourly!

It has recently been brought to our attention, that some residents at Twigworth Green are permanently leaving their waste recycling bins and caddies out after they have been serviced, either at the end of private driveways or along the estate roadsides; the consequence is, that on windy days these waste bins can be blown across the street causing obstructions.

There is no reason to leave the waste bins where they are being left, residential properties have adequate storage space and there are also bin collection point bays (see photo) in the private driveways.



There has been some "fly tipping" outside the Barley Drive property bin store, this certainly doesn't portray Twigworth Green in a good light, to neighbours and the many visitors of the shops and restaurant at the Local Centre

Waste bins also don't look very pleasant if they are left to hang about week after week either.



Please be neighbourly and collect your waste bins after they have been emptied and return them to your property as soon as you can – thank you.



## TREecycle 2026

Start your New Year's resolutions off by recycling your Christmas tree!

You can deposit your tree between 5 - 16 January at:

Brockworth British Garden Centre, Shurdington Road, Brockworth

Dundry Nurseries, Bamfurlong Lane, Staverton

GL3 Community Hub, Cheltenham Road East, Churchdown

Greenway Nurseries, Main Road, Shurdington

Norton Garden Centre, Tewkesbury Road, Down Hatherley

Over Farm Market, Over, Nr Gloucester

Pamington Farm, Pamington Nr Tewkesbury

Primrose Vale, Shurdington Road, Bentham

Tewkesbury Garden Centre, The Mythe, Tewkesbury

The Dawn Nurseries, Shurdington Road, Shurdington

Webbs Garden Centre, Evesham Road, Bishop's Cleeve

REAL TREES  
ONLY  
PLEASE!

**Please remove ALL decorations and pots from your trees**

Go to [tewkesbury.gov.uk](http://tewkesbury.gov.uk) for more information

Your tree will be collected and composted. If it is taller than six feet, please cut it in half.



## Gateway Management

Some Twigworth Green residents... not all yet ... will by now or should, have received their annual invoice from Gateway Property Management; the company responsible for looking after the maintenance of the estate grounds.

With the invoice, there are also explanatory notes about the Contract Maintenance, this details the contracted works which residents can expect, covering 20 visits per year.

As these letters and invoices are sent to directly to residents, it would be interesting to know if anyone has had any problems or concerns about the delivery and quality of this service.

Please email:

[cllrredfern.twigworthpc@gmail.com](mailto:cllrredfern.twigworthpc@gmail.com)



## Ironbridge Road - Noisy Manholes



For sometime now, Twigworth Green residents have been enduring loose / noisy manholes, which have been clattering and banging all along Ironbridge Road, particularly near Barley Drive and the Sales Office Roundabout.

Cllr Redfern has again been in contact with Vistry about this, who have apologised and they have asked their groundworks contractor, M V Kelly to revisit and investigate the drains mentioned.

During December the groundworks contractor confirmed they carried out another fix to the manholes

Update from Vistry 5 Dec - The groundworks contractor confirmed they have done another fix to the manholes and they will be fully secured in the third week of January when the final remedial works are completed.

## What we are doing in 2026!

The Twigworth Parish Council have once again got their work cut out in 2026 delivering for the residents of Twigworth!

- ✦ We will continue to hold the Gloucestershire County Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council to account on the delivery of the S106 Agreements for the new housing developments, to bring the much needed infrastructure to our growing community eg. School, Multi Use Games Area, Children's Play Areas, Bus Shelter, Dog Waste and General Litter bins.
- ✦ We shall be working on the Year 2 deliverables of our 4-Year Plan for the community.
- ✦ Dog owners who consistently fail to clean up their dog waste or dispose of it correctly, can expect to be targeted by the authorities, it is unacceptable and has no place in our community.
- ✦ Following Anti-Social Behaviour issues again 2025, including woman from Twigworth Green who was issued with an antisocial behaviour injunction by Gloucester and Cheltenham County Court, we can reaffirm that Ant-Social Behaviour has no place in our community and residents can expect our full support when dealing with this, in all its forms!
- ✦ We shall be holding the developers and estate management companies to account, to ensure that residents voices are heard, so that services are delivered to specification, we regularly submit residents concerns and observations to Vistry and Gateway... including the dead or damaged saplings
- ✦ Littering is unacceptable in any area, as the Twigworth Green development grows, we are seeing this becoming a big issue, especially at the bus stop and around the Local Centre, with alcohol bottles, drink cans and confectionary wrappings everywhere, we shall be promoting various campaigns to highlight this concern and do whatever we can to make us all proud of the community we live in - providing litter bins at every street corner is not the answer, people must take responsibility for disposing their litter correctly.

### How are we doing?

## Gloucestershire County Council Budget Consultation 2026/27

Every year, we set a budget to decide how we spend public money and we want to make sure it reflects what matters most to you.

This budget is about more than numbers. It's about people. It's about investing in the things that matter—supporting communities, protecting our environment, and building a county where everyone feels welcome and proud to call home.

Costs are rising, demand for services is growing, and we don't yet know how much funding we will receive from Government following changes to the funding formula under the Fair Funding Review. Areas with higher levels of deprivation are likely to receive more funding, while areas like Gloucestershire may receive less. That means we've had to make careful choices—balancing the need to deliver essential services with opportunities to invest where it will have the greatest impact.

Government assumes we will increase council tax and the adult social care precept to the maximum allowed. For a Band D property, this means an increase of £1.61 per week, raising an additional £26.1 million next year to support services. Even with this increase, Gloucestershire is expected to remain among the lowest council tax levels of any county council.

We know times are tough, and we take no joy in asking more of residents, but we have a legal duty to keep people safe, well, and supported—and to improve life chances for everyone.

Here's what we're planning to invest in next year:

- £15 million to improve roads and drainage
- £80 million for school maintenance and £21.1 million for a new special school in Gloucester
- £6.35 million for three new adult care homes and £500k for a virtual Adult Social Care Academy
- £3.9 million to refurbish household recycling centres and £445k to protect nature
- A new annual community prevention grant scheme to help people stay independent and reduce health inequalities
- £2.5 million for new fire and rescue vehicles, training facilities, and station upgrades

To make this possible, we've identified £25.7 million in savings and are reviewing fees and charges, including parking charges, which haven't been updated since 2013.

**We want your views.** Please take a few minutes to tell us what you think of our proposed budget. Your feedback will help us make better, more informed decisions and shape a fairer future for everyone.

**Please also share this consultation with your networks**—the more voices we hear, the better decisions we can make for Gloucestershire.

What happens next?

- 8 January: Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee reviews the proposed budget
- 28 January: Cabinet considers consultation results and stakeholder feedback
- 18 February: Full council debates and votes on the final budget

A summary of consultation themes will be published ahead of the Cabinet meeting on 28 January.

Thank you for helping us build a stronger, fairer Gloucestershire. Your views guide our decisions and help us create a county where everyone can thrive.

[www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/budget-2026/27](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/budget-2026/27)



## Council takes action to destroy van involved in illegal fly-tipping

Gloucester City Council has taken action against fly-tipping offenders by seizing and destroying a vehicle linked to multiple illegal dumping incidents across the city.

Council enforcement officers worked with Gloucestershire Constabulary, to track and seize the white Ford Transit van after it was identified as being involved in several fly-tipping offences. It has now been destroyed, and its owners face further legal action for these offences. Fly-tipping is a serious crime that affects communities and costs taxpayers thousands of pounds each year. To help tackle this issue the council is considering increasing the level of fines for fly-tipping.

Residents are reminded that they are responsible for disposing of their waste correctly—even when paying someone to remove it and could be held liable if their waste is illegally dumped.

- Check that anyone they pay to take waste away holds a valid waste carrier licence.
- Request and keep receipts for any waste removal service.

## Hempsted Household Recycling Centre

Gloucestershire County Council has announced that Hempsted Household Recycling Centre (HRC) will need to close later than expected next year for essential repairs and improvements.

The original plan was to close in early January 2026 and reopen by Easter, but after further assessments, the timeline isn't possible. This is because the centre is on an old landfill site, more groundwork is needed, and reopening by Easter - when the centre is usually busiest - wouldn't be feasible with those limitations.

Cllr Martin Horwood, cabinet member for nature, climate and waste reduction, said: "We understand this change may be inconvenient, and we're truly sorry for the disruption it may cause. Our goal is to choose the best possible time for the closure, based on when the centre is least used, and to carry out the work in better weather to avoid delays. We'll keep residents updated as soon as we have confirmed dates."

The improvements will make the centre safer, more sustainable, and easier to use. Highlights include new surfaces, modern waste compactors powered by renewable energy, and a new Reuse Shop where items can be repaired and given a second life. We're also adding better protection for electrical waste and new EV charging points for service vehicles.

While Hempsted HRC is closed, residents are still be able to use other recycling centres in the county, such as Pyke Quarry and Wingmoor Farm, which will be open seven days a week. Residents can also consider using kerbside collections, bring banks, and bulky waste services.

For more information, please visit:

[Gloucestershire Recycles | Gloucestershire Recycles](#)

[Waste Wizard | Gloucestershire Recycles](#)



## Have you visited our website lately?

The Parish Council website has a great deal of information to help new and old residents - from Doctors, Bus Timetables, Schools, Bin Recycling dates, Gyms, River Severn Bore times and much, much more!

Who to contact at Gloucestershire County Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council, Vistry, Bloor, Wain Homes and many others.

Subscribe or Visit our website at:  
**[www.twigworthparishcouncil.com](http://www.twigworthparishcouncil.com)**

## Local News in Brief

As reported previously, the Oakwood Hotel recently been purchased by new owners who are currently in the process of upgrading the 55-bedroom Grade 2 Oakwood Hotel, to create a "high-end offering" for guests, with an additional bar and restaurant.

Work is progressing at pace and should be complete in the early part of the new year.



## Next Parish Council Meeting

**Thursday 8th January @ 19:00 - 21:00**

**Down Hatherley Village Hall**

*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.*

## Vistry Sales Office

Vistry contacted the Parish Council to discuss the future of their Sales Office when the Twigworth Green development is complete and asked if the Parish Council would be interested in taking on the building, for the potential use of the community.



Twigworth Green, indeed, Twigworth generally, is in desperate need of a facility such as this, as currently there is no social centre where the community can come together.

However, Vistry are in the process of constructing the Multi-Use Games Area Facility, which should also be available for social use and this should be completed within a few months.

At the Parish Council November meeting, the Council, under closed session, considered the proposal and if it wished to further investigate the possible use of the Sales Office.

As the Sales Office was only designed and installed as a "temporary building" and it was always planned to be demolished on the completion of the house sales and development, it raised several issues.

There were many considerations such as, cost, staffing, ownership of land, lifespan of the building and planning permissions.

After fully considering all these issues, the Parish Council decided that they were not in a position to take this building on.

There are other possible interested parties that may make approaches.