



### Cox's Brook Solar Farm

Residents may have noticed activity in the fields at Cox's Brook over the past couple of days. This is the start of preparatory work for the Cox's Brook Solar Farm, a 16MW (AC) solar photovoltaic project being developed by PS Renewables.

The solar farm will cover around 66 acres and has received full planning permission, granted in April 2024. The project is now moving into its construction phase, with initial access works already underway.

The development is expected to generate clean, renewable electricity for the local area while maintaining careful management of the land and its surroundings. PS Renewables has confirmed that all works are fully compliant with planning approvals.



Further updates will be shared as the project progresses, keeping the community informed about key milestones and any temporary impacts on local access.

### Proposed School at Twigworth Green - GCC update to Cllr Redfern

“The scale of the development of 725 homes at Twigworth Green will generate the need for 210 primary school places (1 Form Entry). As part of the original negotiations with the developer, GCC secured an additional parcel of land which will enable the school to expand by a further 0.5 FE (105 places), which will meet the school places needed in the future.

The timeline for any school expansion is based on our data driven forecasts around birth rates, child yields from new housing etc, and is in line with the Department for Education requirements. When you enquired about the timing of delivery of the school in May 2025, the planning area forecasts at that time showed the Local Authority (LA) would need to plan for the school to be in place by 2028 to meet the additional demand. However, the number of children moving into Twigworth Green in the last year has not increased as much as expected and the updated 2026-based pupil forecasts now indicate that a new school will be needed from September 2029 rather than 2028.

It is important that the school does not open too early before there is sufficient demand for additional places because it could be detrimental to the existing schools if their numbers on roll were to fall as a result of surplus capacity in the area.

As part of the progress of the scheme, officers will engage with local stakeholders to share updates on progress. As with all the LA's new schemes, GCC officers will also hold some public engagement events to share plans of the proposals and seek feedback prior to formally submitting a planning application. No dates are set yet for these but be assured officers will be liaising with stakeholders early in this process. The County Council's Cabinet approval will be required to progress the proposals, and we are currently planning to seek a decision before the end of 2026.”

**Director of Education – Gloucestershire County Council**

## Has your new home promise been fulfilled?

New communities, like Twigworth Green, are built on promises. When a developer gains planning permission, it's not just a signal to start building homes—it's a formal agreement. That permission comes with conditions and commitments covering everything from infrastructure and landscaping to public amenities and environmental protections. These standards are designed not just to benefit the new residents but to ensure the development integrates safely and harmoniously into the wider community. But what happens when those promises are only partially fulfilled?

For people moving into a new development, it can be easy to assume that missing paths, incomplete green spaces, or unfinished communal areas are simply part of the “settling-in” process. Delays in facilities or amenities might feel like temporary inconveniences, something to be tolerated until construction catches up. The reality, however, is that many of these elements are not optional extras—they are formal conditions of the planning permission. When they are not delivered, it affects the quality of life and can even have safety or environmental implications.

Highlighting these shortcomings isn't about being difficult or ungrateful. It's about accountability. Planning conditions exist to make sure developments are safe, functional, and in keeping with local standards. They often cover critical aspects such as road access, drainage systems, affordable housing, landscaping, play areas, and environmental safeguards. Missing or delayed elements aren't trivial—they directly influence how residents experience the community and how the development impacts its surroundings.

Residents play a vital role in making sure these standards are met. Local planning authorities depend on feedback to monitor developer compliance. If problems aren't reported, they can remain unnoticed or unresolved for far longer than necessary. Even a single report can be significant, but when multiple residents speak up, it often triggers meaningful action. Engaging early helps prevent shortfalls from becoming accepted norms.

There's also a broader, long-term benefit. When planning commitments are ignored or overlooked, it sets a precedent for future developments. By raising concerns, residents help create a culture in which promises must be honoured—not just here in Twigworth, but across the Tewkesbury Borough. This protects the integrity of planning rules and ensures that communities are built as intended.

If you notice something missing or incomplete, it's important to act. Check the approved planning documents and conditions, which are publicly available on the Tewkesbury Borough Council Planning webpage. When reporting an issue, be clear, factual, and thorough. Include photos where possible and reference the specific condition or commitment that isn't being met.

Approaching the situation constructively is key. The aim is resolution, not conflict. Many issues can be resolved once they are formally recognised—developers may simply need a reminder, or councils may need to enforce existing conditions. Living in a new development should feel like stepping into a complete, thoughtfully designed community, not a half-finished compromise.

By staying informed and willing to raise concerns, residents help ensure that the vision for Twigworth Green becomes reality. Speaking up doesn't just protect your home—it helps set the standards that shape the quality and integrity of the entire community.

**Cllr John Redfern**

## Taking Pride Where We Live!

Taking pride in your neighbourhood is about more than just appearances—it's about fostering a sense of belonging, respect, and shared responsibility. The places we live shape our daily experiences, from the streets we walk to the people we greet. When residents care about their surroundings, it creates a positive ripple effect that benefits everyone.

A well-kept neighbourhood sends a powerful message. Simple actions like maintaining a tidy front garden, properly disposing of litter, or helping to keep public spaces clean can transform the atmosphere of a community. These efforts not only improve visual appeal but also encourage others to follow suit, creating a culture of care and mutual respect.



Pride in your neighbourhood also means engaging with the people around you. Saying hello to neighbours, supporting local businesses, or participating in community events helps build connections. Strong relationships foster trust, making neighbourhoods feel safer and more welcoming. When people feel connected, they are more likely to look out for one another and take an active role in improving their shared environment.

Importantly, taking pride doesn't require grand gestures. Small, consistent acts—planting flowers, reporting maintenance issues, or volunteering for local initiatives—can make a meaningful difference. Over time, these contributions add up, shaping a neighbourhood that people are proud to call home.

Ultimately, a thriving neighbourhood is built on collective effort. When individuals take pride in where they live, they help create a community that is not only pleasant to look at, but also supportive, vibrant, and resilient.

Clr John Redfern



### Twigworth Green - Neighbourhood Watch

**Are you a member of our local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme?**



A neighbourhood watch scheme offers valuable benefits for residents by strengthening community safety and connection. By working together, neighbours can deter crime, report suspicious activity, and create a visible presence that discourages offenders. These schemes also build trust and communication among residents, helping people feel less isolated and more supported. In addition, they promote awareness of local issues and encourage shared responsibility for maintaining a secure environment. Beyond safety, neighbourhood watch groups often foster a stronger sense of belonging, making communities more welcoming and resilient places to live. Overall, they empower residents to take an active role in protecting and improving their neighbourhood.

If you have any questions or ideas, please feel free to get in touch with Paul James  
[twigworthgreen.nhw@gmail.com](mailto:twigworthgreen.nhw@gmail.com)

**Paul James - Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator**

## Twenty is Plenty!

Twigworth Parish Council supports the Gloucestershire County Council initiative of introducing community-backed 20mph speed limits and other road safety measures as part of a major new road safety programme



Speeding on residential estates is often dismissed as a minor issue, but its consequences can be serious and far-reaching. These areas are designed for living, not fast driving. With children playing, families walking pets, and neighbours crossing roads, even a small increase in speed can significantly raise the risk of accidents.

Unlike main roads, residential roads tend to have limited visibility due to parked cars, narrow layouts, and frequent junctions. Drivers who exceed speed limits reduce their ability to react to unexpected hazards - such as a child stepping into the road or a cyclist emerging from a driveway. At higher speeds, stopping distances increase dramatically, turning what could have been a near miss into a collision.

Beyond safety, speeding also affects the quality of life for residents. Noise from fast-moving vehicles disrupts the calm environment people expect in their neighbourhoods. It can discourage outdoor activities and create anxiety for parents and elderly residents alike.

Ultimately, slowing down in residential estates is a simple but crucial act of responsibility. It helps protect lives, fosters a safer community, and ensures that these roads remain places where people can live comfortably - not just roads to pass through quickly

<https://twigworthparishcouncil.com/2026/03/11/county-to-begin-work-on-roll-out-of-20mph-speed-limits/>

### Next Parish Council

The next meeting of the Twigworth Parish Council will be both the Annual General Meeting and Parish Assembly, held at the Down Hatherley Village Hall.



Both meetings are open to the public, if you would like to address the Council or just wish to hear what's going on in and around Twigworth..

#### PARISH COUNCIL AGM

**Thursday, 7th May 2026**

**19:00 – 20:00**

#### PARISH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

**Thursday, 7th May 2026**

**20:00 – 21:00**

### Not in our backyard!

Residents are increasingly concerned about a rise in visible drug use within the area by a small minority.

Reports include individuals openly smoking cannabis in public spaces and a growing amount of discarded paraphernalia, particularly nitrous oxide canisters, being found in hedgerows and communal areas.

This behaviour is having a clear and negative impact on the local environment, contributing to a strong sense of frustration and dissatisfaction among residents.

Many feel it undermines community pride and safety, and does not reflect the respectful, welcoming environment that people expect and deserve in their neighbourhood.