

Cllr's Alan Holford and Gary Groves update for Whixall Parish Council October 2025

Dear Parish Councillors, Please find a written summary report of goings on relevant to the ward for you to read. I will be available on the night for questions, Alan.

Financial Emergency

The previous CEO has left his post and has been replaced in the interim by Tanya Miles, who is showing good early signs of high quality action and great communication with the staff in the council, essential for all staff participating in making the required savings.

Planning and Street Scene

- Officers are preparing a guidance note for parish councils via SALC. This will explain:
 - How best to comment on planning applications.
 - The importance of using "material considerations" to strengthen observations.
 - Key timeframes for responses.
- The guidance is expected to be circulated in the coming weeks.
- A briefing on Street Scene delegation (covering how responsibilities could be managed locally) will take place by the end of October.

Strategic and Government Engagement

- A letter has been sent to the new Minister for Roads regarding the North West Relief Road (NWRR), offering details of an alternative way forward.
- This week, there will be a plan for the Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC) produced, along with a letter to MHCLG requesting Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) from central government.

Highways

- Since May, the new administration has repaired over 10,000 potholes.
- This represents a 55% increase in pothole repairs compared to May–September of the previous year.

Health and Social Care

- The All-Age Autism Strategy (2025–2030) is now out for consultation until 2nd November 2025.
 - The draft strategy aims to embed a cultural shift across Shropshire’s services, taking an all-age approach and creating more autism-accessible services.
 - The consultation survey can be accessed online: [Draft All-age Autism Strategy consultation | Get Involved - Shropshire Council Consultation Portal](#).
- A series of visits have taken place to understand Shropshire’s Drug & Alcohol Services and wider community health provision:
 - With You Shropshire Service (supporting over 1,100 clients, including work with The Tannery Homeless Accommodation).
 - Sunflower House Community & Neighbourhood Health Hub, providing a wide range of community-based health services.
 - Louise House (SC Building), currently used by the NHS, Autism Charity A4U, and other service providers.

Environment – Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)

- The draft Local Nature Recovery Strategy is out for consultation until 15th October 2025.
- Key responsibilities for town and parish councils (per Government guidance, May 2023):
 1. Consider biodiversity within their parish.
 2. Agree local policies and objectives to support biodiversity.
 3. Deliver these objectives through community action.
- Councils are encouraged to work with local wildlife groups, SALC, and other partners to develop local nature recovery plans.
- Examples of parish-led biodiversity action include:
 - Tree and hedgerow planting.
 - Creation of ponds and wildflower meadows.
 - Watercourse protection.
 - Redesigning parks and recreational spaces with biodiversity in mind.
- A case study of Oswestry Town Council highlights successful approaches to making communities more nature-rich.

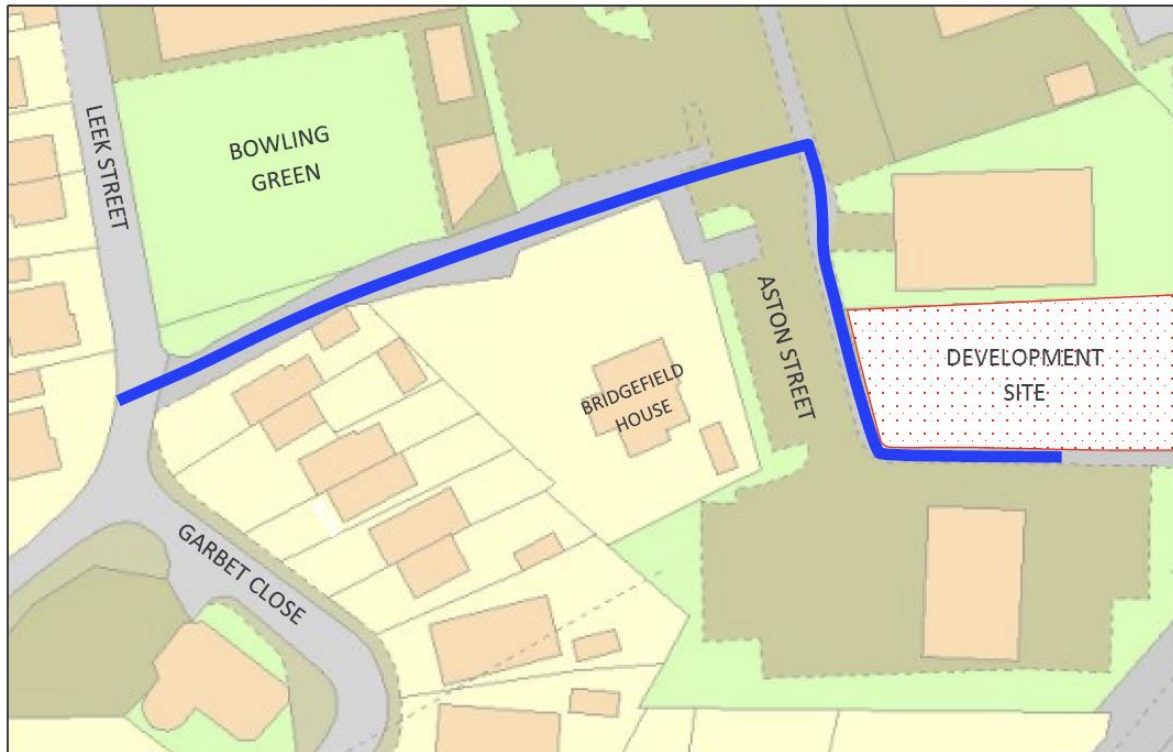
Key Upcoming Deadlines for Councils

- 15th October 2025 – Local Nature Recovery Strategy consultation closes.

- End of October 2025 – Street Scene delegation briefing and new Ludlow bus timetable begins.
- 2nd November 2025 – All-Age Autism Strategy consultation closes.

Planned Roadworks

Plan – Leek Street water main work





KEY	
	Location of the new water main
	Approximate location of the development site

Table – Affected roads and traffic management

LOCATION	START DATE	FINISH DATE	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT
Leek Street	06/10/25*	10/10/25*	Signs and barriers
Leek Street footway	13/10/25*	24/10/25*	Closure
Aston Street	27/10/25*	07/11/25*	Signs and barriers

*Please note these dates may be subject to change

Road Closure: B5063, Horton, Wem

Start Date: 29th October 2025

End Date: 31st October 2025

Purpose: Road Closure - Excavating across the road to put in a new UG service cable.

Works Promoter: SP Energy Networks

Works Promoter Ref: GY030LEHORT0610-02

Enforcement pattern for B5063, Horton, Wem:

All the time

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=GB144564038>

Should you have any queries regarding this closure, please call Customer Services on 0345 6789006, or contact the Street Works Team on streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk.

Road Closure: Loppington Remembrance Parade (2025)

Start Date: 9th November 2025

End Date: 9th November 2025

Purpose: Remembrance Day service is being held at the Loppington War Memorial on SUN 9-NOV. Nonley Road (Scholars Lane to B4397) will be closed between 10:30 - 11:30

Works Promoter: Loppington PC

Enforcement pattern for Loppington Remembrance Parade (2025):

All the time

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=GB145631176>

Road Closure: Unnamed Road, Dobsons Bridge

Start Date: 23rd October 2025

End Date: 23rd October 2025

Purpose: Road closure - Replace pole

Works Promoter: SP Energy Networks

Works Promoter Ref: GY0222101865485A-01

Enforcement pattern for Unnamed Road, Dobsons Bridge:

9.30 - 15.00

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=GB145223322>

Road Closure: Stocks Lane, Welshampton

Start Date: 4th November 2025

End Date: 4th November 2025

Purpose: Road Closure - Notice required for erecting poles either side of road.

Works Promoter: SP Energy Networks

Works Promoter Ref: GY300GT33KV5A-02

Enforcement pattern for Stocks Lane, Welshampton:

All the time

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=145020789>

Road Closure: Unnamed road, Welsh End

Start Date: 7th November 2025

End Date: 7th November 2025

Purpose: Road Closure - Pole test

Works Promoter: Openreach

Works Promoter Ref: BC008WGHMHN9MPTSB-01

Enforcement pattern for Unnamed road, Welsh End:

9.30 - 15.00hrs

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=145116354>

Road Closure: A528 junc to Noneley junc, Burlton

Start Date: 29th October 2025

End Date: 5th November 2025

Purpose: Multivo carriageway repairs

Works Promoter: Shropshire Council

Works Promoter Ref: UJ20848379398

Enforcement pattern for A528 junc to Noneley junc, Burlton:

From Monday to Friday 09:30 - 16:00

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=144889043>

Road Closure: Ruewood Chapel to Tilley Road, Tilley

Start Date: 4th November 2025

End Date: 10th November 2025

Purpose: Multevo carriageway repairs

Works Promoter: Shropshire Council

Works Promoter Ref: UJ20898280113

Enforcement pattern for Ruewood Chapel to Tilley Road, Tilley:

From Monday to Friday 09:30 - 16:00

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=144864130>

Road Closure: Unnamed road through Cotonwood, Whitchurch

Start Date: 27th October 2025

End Date: 29th October 2025

Purpose: Road Closure - New Water Connection

Works Promoter: Severn Trent Water

Works Promoter Ref: LB9225201-000006733952-01

Enforcement pattern for Unnamed road through Cotonwood, Whitchurch:

All the time

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=144835319>

Road Closure: Back Lane, Clive

Start Date: 13th October 2025

End Date: 17th October 2025

Purpose: Road Closure - Electrical unlooping

Works Promoter: SP Energy Networks

Works Promoter Ref: GY030PSFAIR1310-01

Enforcement pattern for Back Lane, Clive:

All the time

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=144817061>

Road Closure: WEM Remembrance Day Parade

Start Date: 9th November 2025

End Date: 9th November 2025

Purpose: Wem Remembrance Day parades take place SUNDAY 09-NOV-25 between 10:30 and 12:30. Roads closed for short duration at various times while parade passes, controlled reopening when safe to do so. Roads affected: Mill Street, High Street, Chapel Street.

Works Promoter: Wem TC

Enforcement pattern for WEM Remembrance Day Parade

All the time

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=144110946>

Road Closure: B4397 Marton to Newtown

Start Date: 20th October 2025

End Date: 22nd November 2025

Purpose: Installation of Gabion Baskets to support edge of carriageway

Works Promoter: Shropshire Council

Works Promoter Ref: UJ212BR-1749711

Enforcement pattern for B4397 Marton to Newtown:

From Monday to Sunday 00:00 - 23:59

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=144015049>

Road Closure: Wem Road, Shawbury

Start Date: 27th October 2025

End Date: 30th October 2025

Purpose: Road Closure - New customer substation connection.

Works Promoter: SP Energy Networks

Works Promoter Ref: GY0022101576022-05

Enforcement pattern for Wem Road, Shawbury:

All the time

You can view the closure and diversion route by clicking here: <https://one.network/?tm=GB145224913>