



FEB 2021

GREEN VIEW - PORTHILL, FRANKWELL & KINGSLAND

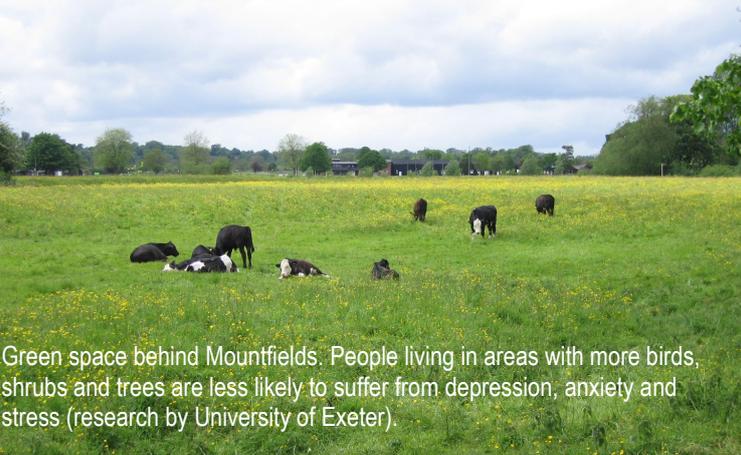
COUNCILLOR JULIAN DEAN

MAKING THE MOST OF NATURE ON OUR DOORSTEP

We're really lucky to have a great range of green space close at hand. Having nature on our doorstep has been shown to boost mental health. This is especially important when everything is so uncertain, as it is at the moment.

Along the riverside path linking The Brewery on Longden Road to Burrs Field and on to the Boathouse pub, I've been pleased to work with Shrewsbury Town Council officers, Pengwern Rowing Club, Shrewsbury School and residents to develop a plan to improve safety and access for all. This work is ongoing.

Further along the river, behind Mountfields and Frankwell car park, the river loops around a wonderfully peaceful area next to the cricket club. Through the middle of this runs the old barge gutter which Shrewsbury Town Council have recently purchased. I am talking to officers about how we use this wild place as a resource for schools and environmental arts. The river then continues around past Shropshire Wildlife Trust's Darwin's Garden Reserve and Doctor's Field (also managed by Shrewsbury Town Council).



Green space behind Mountfields. People living in areas with more birds, shrubs and trees are less likely to suffer from depression, anxiety and stress (research by University of Exeter).

Our area also contains one of Shrewsbury's most important green corridors: the valley between Kingsland and Longden Road. I've been standing alongside local residents who are opposed to new housing developments in this wildlife-rich area. Both our community and the wildlife need this to remain a refuge.

DEPUTY MAYOR

In December I was honoured to be elected Deputy Mayor of Shrewsbury. The role is to support the Mayor, now Cllr. Gwen Burgess, in her duties throughout her term. I was able to help with the launch of a leaflet for [Share](#), a Shrewsbury charity that supports people affected by alcohol addiction.



Above: Deputy Mayor Julian at the launch of 'Share', a local charity to support people affected by alcohol addiction.

REGISTER TO VOTE

The whole of Shropshire has local elections in May this year and I encourage everyone to ensure that you are registered to vote. The easiest way to do this is to go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote and enter your details and those for your household members.

We know



that some people will feel unsure about going to a polling station this year, so you might also want to consider registering for a postal vote. You can do this at www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-a-postal-vote.

Remember, you will still be able to make the decision to hand your postal voting slip into a polling station on polling day if you want to.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND CARBON FOOTPRINT UPDATES

CONTINUING TO PUSH SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL ON CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION

Climate change is a challenge now being met by many, which gives me hope. Shropshire Council, Shrewsbury Town Council and the countywide [Shropshire Climate Action Partnership](#) have all produced plans with many good ideas. I advise on local climate action for the Green Party nationally, and will continue to help these local plans become a reality. This means working together, opposing damaging plans and promoting alternatives.

HOMES

A simple step Shropshire Council should take is to only build 'zero carbon' homes, in places where they won't add climate-damaging car traffic. I've proposed a Zero Carbon homes commitment twice, but both times the Conservative majority have opposed it. I'll also continue to oppose the Shropshire 'Local Plan' that will increase edge of town development.

INVESTMENT

[Shropshire Climate Action Partnership](#) has shown that powering our lives with green energy is possible, but needs rapid, well planned investment. I've written to Council leaders calling for an expanded task force to manage this scale of ambition. Much of this investment could support local jobs and local firms.

TRANSPORT

We need a transport system that improves access for all but is less car-dependent. It's shocking that we have no Sunday bus services! The Big Town Plan has good ideas and I'm working with others to support its aims. But money for the North West Relief Road would be better spent on cross-town links for reliable bus and bike journeys, and improving services where people live.

This is what Hereford has done: replacing plans for a by-pass with support for better, greener transport links in the city. Shrewsbury should follow.

Shropshire Climate Action Partnership

Our Ambition for Shropshire

Each year starting right away
Shropshire will need to achieve the following:



WHAT WE CAN ALL DO

Just as most of us recycle carefully, it is now time to look at our own 'carbon footprint'. I recommend [CarbonSavvy.uk](#) as a place to start.

This year we have acted together to save lives and protect the NHS. We *can* act together to protect our children and grandchildren from climate catastrophe.

MUTUAL AID GROUPS CONTINUE TO OFFER HELP

Facebook groups: Copthorne Community & Frankwell Mutual Aid (both include Porthill).

Frankwell phone number: 07309 720384.

WhatsApp group for Kingsland, Rad Valley, Londgen Road & Luciefelde Road. Contact my number (07939 121607).

For regular updates please check my [Facebook page: @CllrJDean](#).



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[@shrewsburygreen](https://twitter.com/shrewsburygreen)



Councillor Julian Dean

Shropshire Council Covid-19 Helpline: 0345 6789 028

Mutual aid groups: 07309 720384 (Frankwell) / 07931 531919 (Copthorne)