

GREEN VIEW - RADBROOK

(including Rad Valley, Mytton Oak Road and Bowbrook Meadows)

JULIA EVANS & CHRIS LEMON

ROAD SAFETY - A MISSED OPPORTUNITY?

Residents on Ridgebourne Road recently told us that Shropshire Council plans to put in new "advisory cycle lanes" along their road. We held a distanced meeting in the street (photo below) and agree with the residents that this would be a waste of money and paint **that would do nothing to make cycling in that area safer and easier.** What is really needed is to improve the shared walking and cycling track on Roman Road for the hundreds of young people who use it every day to get to and from school.



Chris meeting residents on Ridgebourne Road

The latest government advice to councils is to give more space for cycling to help with social distancing, increase the general health of

the population and to reduce traffic congestion. Shropshire Council will have received funding for this.

So far, **we have seen little sign that Shropshire Council is taking this advice seriously.** Together with local residents we are challenging them to scrap their weak proposals and to come up with a more ambitious and effective plan.

NEW RIVER TEAM IN ACTION



Some of our younger litter heroes

Many thanks to everyone who turned out to help with our socially-distanced litter pick at Rad Valley Gardens on 6th September. Nineteen local

people aged from under-10 to over-80 joined us to collect **12 full bags of rubbish**, plus some larger items which had ended up in the brook. We'd also like to thank the rivers team at Shropshire Wildlife Trust for the loan of equipment and for their support in setting up our developing Friends of the Brook group.

If you would like to help us organise another litter pick in your area please get in touch.

JOIN US ON A RIVER WALK

We've organised a walk on **Sunday 25th October starting from Rad Valley Gardens at 10.30am** to start to get to know our local watercourses better following on from the introductory Friends of the Brook meeting we had in June. All are welcome and we will have a number of walk leaders so can follow the 'rule of six' guidelines if they are still in place at that point.

KEEP LOOKING OUT FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS

For around 6 months, the Radbrook Mutual Aid group has coordinated deliveries to the most vulnerable in our community. More permanent help is now in place for those who still it and with the majority of volunteers now back at work the group is winding down.

Let's continue with the wonderful spirit that was shown during lockdown and watch out for our neighbours. Please continue to ask them if they need help, and **if you do know of anyone who needs support** please email radbrookmutualaid@gmail.com where the team will continue to put them in touch with the services that they need.



Chris delivering for Radbrook Mutual Aid

UPDATE ON PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES

In our last newsletter we highlighted a front-page report in the Shropshire Star (July 20th 2020) regarding a shortage of primary school places in Radbrook and Bowbrook Meadows. The Star quoted a report to the local authority stating, "...schools surrounding the Bowbrook area are consistently filled to the infant class size capacity at the point of entry. **There are usually no vacancies for pupils moving into the area.**"

Builders of new developments can and should be required to put some of their profits into creating the public services needed for all the new residents. If not, one knock-on effect is that families have to settle for school places outside the area.

We have submitted a Freedom of Information request to Shropshire Council to discover exactly how over-subscribed local schools are, and will be pressing for the desperately needed new school between Hanwood Road and Mytton Oak Road to be prioritised at the earliest opportunity.

We will also be responding to Shropshire Council's consultation on their Local Plan and stressing that new housing developments have to come with added local school capacity and other services including public transport.

BOWBROOK MEADOWS TREES NEGLECTED BY DEVELOPERS

During the hot spell this summer we were saddened to see that a large number of recently-planted trees on the new Bowbrook Meadows development were 'distressed' or already dead. Despite the Government's recent announcement to make all roads in new developments tree-lined, a walk along Squinter Pip Way revealed **dozens of dead or dying trees** as a result of poor planting or poor aftercare.

Trees are vital for human wellbeing and for wildlife. Developers at sites like Bowbrook Meadows are required to plant trees to replace wildlife areas lost to development and to help deal with climate change. **These are empty promises** if the trees die for lack of care.

We are investigating what can be done to ensure the trees at Bowbrook Meadows that have died are replaced by the developers and cared for properly.



Dead trees on Squinter Pip Way - need to be replaced & cared for

COULD YOU HELP DELIVER THESE NEWSLETTERS?

We hope that residents of the Radbrook, Rad Valley and Bowbrook Meadows areas have enjoyed receiving these updates from us over the two-plus years that we have been working for these communities. As our campaign work on road safety, housing development, the local environment and more gets busier, it would be great if residents were happy to come forward to deliver these updates around their own community.

Delivery rounds can take as little as an hour. If you would be happy to help, please email radbrookgreens@gmail.com. Thanks in advance!



GET IN TOUCH



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