

What Nature Recovery Means to Us





Our Grounds Portfolio



Quarry Park



Pocket Parks & Closed Churchyards



Recreation & Sporting Grounds



Allotment Sites



Public Open Space and Play



250 acres Countryside Land



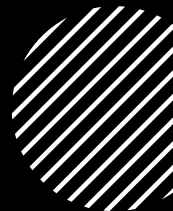
12 Community Woodlands



Fishing Rights



Climate Change & Nature Recovery Committee



Standing Committee of Council



Has both Councillors and External Stakeholders



Has the remit of seeking carbon neutrality by 2030



Has a £250,000 budget

Developing our Local Nature Recovery Strategy



- Understanding the use and function of all of our assets
- Understanding the habitat on all of our sites
- Looking at ways that we can re-wild all of our sites, even the Dingle
- Having a robust strategy for the management of trees
- Having a strong approach to the development of new open space
- Using the planning system to recommend change
- Offering our sites as Biodiversity Net Gain



Shrewsbury

Town Council





Shrewsbury

Town Council





Shrewsbury

Town Council

MOUSECROFT

COMMUNITY WOODLAND

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL





Follow the paths around the park!

Welcome to Copthorne Park Countryside Site

Managed by Shrewsbury Town Council's Countryside and Greenspace team, Copthorne Park is one of the town's larger sites at nearly 6 hectares in size. The park was taken over by the then Borough Council in 1945 and designated as a Countryside Site in 1991 in recognition of its importance to wildlife.

In 2022 a 'Friends of Copthorne Park' group of local residents was formed which has been active in maintaining and improving the paths that wind their way through the site and in generally promoting the attractions of this quiet yet beautiful park.

A former local resident who lived in the area in the 1980s shared this reminiscence:

"Our garden backed on to the fields, so we

spent lots of time adventuring in and around them. We built a den and rope swing on one of the big trees – I dressed it with lots of ornaments my grandmother had given me. I also remember falling in to 'the swamp' and my brother rescuing me!

The 'swamp' referred to is in fact a kettle hole left behind from the ice age! There are two in the park.

Kettle holes

Kettle holes are thought to be remnants of the last ice age around 10,000 years ago. The glaciers that once covered the whole of the British Isles started to recede northwards. As the ice melted, it created depressions in the ground which eventually filled with water. These ranged in size from the small ponds as in Copthorne Park to large bodies of water which can be found all over the world.

Kettle holes play an important role in both the ecology and the history of the regions where they are found. They provide habitats for a variety of aquatic and semi-aquatic species and have been used as sources of drinking water and fishing grounds by humans for centuries. Understanding the formation



To see a short video of how kettle holes are formed, scan this QR code with your phone:



Yellow Rattle and Ragwort, both important components of a health meadow



Perennial Meadows

There are three perennial meadows within the park, the most diverse of which is near to where you are standing. This grassland has provided donor seed to projects for the Shropshire Wildlife Trust, as well as other Council nature reserves. July is the best time to see the meadows, with the flowers in bloom and the tips of the grasses buzzing with bees and butterflies. The meadows are managed by taking a hay cut once the flowers have set seed. This removes nutrients from the ground, which hampers weed growth. The hay is used to feed cattle over the winter, who come out to graze our other nature reserves in the summer months.

Park users

Despite being sited in a busy residential district surrounded by housing and roads, the Park is nevertheless a quiet refuge and is well respected and cared for by locals and visitors alike. Popular with dog walkers, wildlife watchers and those just out for a stroll, you can walk a circular or 'figure of eight' route depending on whether you cross the small bridge off the main pathway parallel to Copthorne Park (the road).

The Friends of Copthorne Park group organises regular work parties to help improve footpaths by bark spreading. Due to the often boggy ground conditions, the paths can quickly become waterlogged in poor weather. With the cooperation of the Town Council, many tons of bark are laid annually by volunteers to try and keep the routes open throughout the year.



To join the Friends' WhatsApp group, scan this QR code with your phone:



Look out for: Cowslips

The Cowslip is one of our best-loved wildflowers, and in addition to its beauty it has a wonderful scent. Look out for them from early spring in the largest meadow on the park.



Great Crested Newts

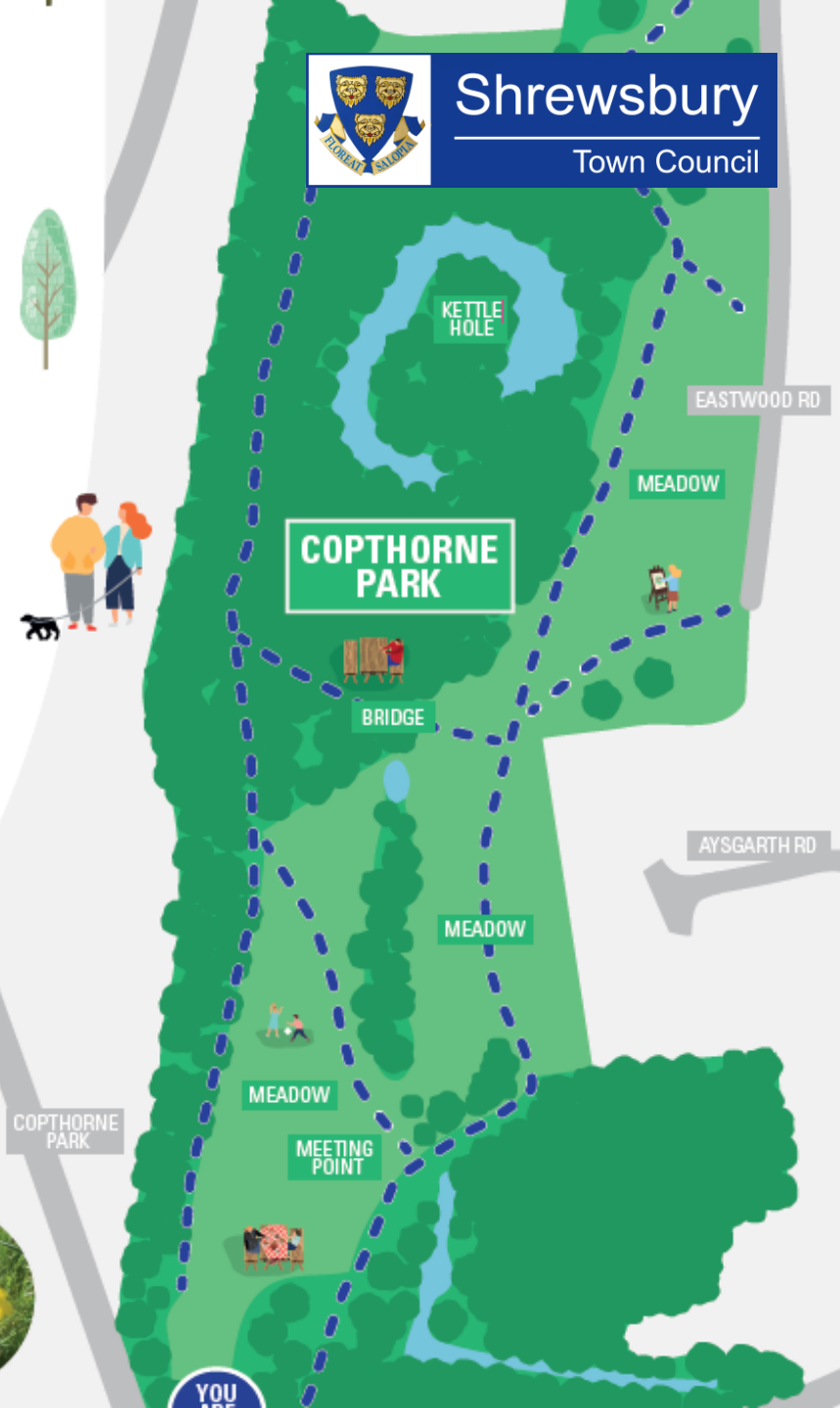


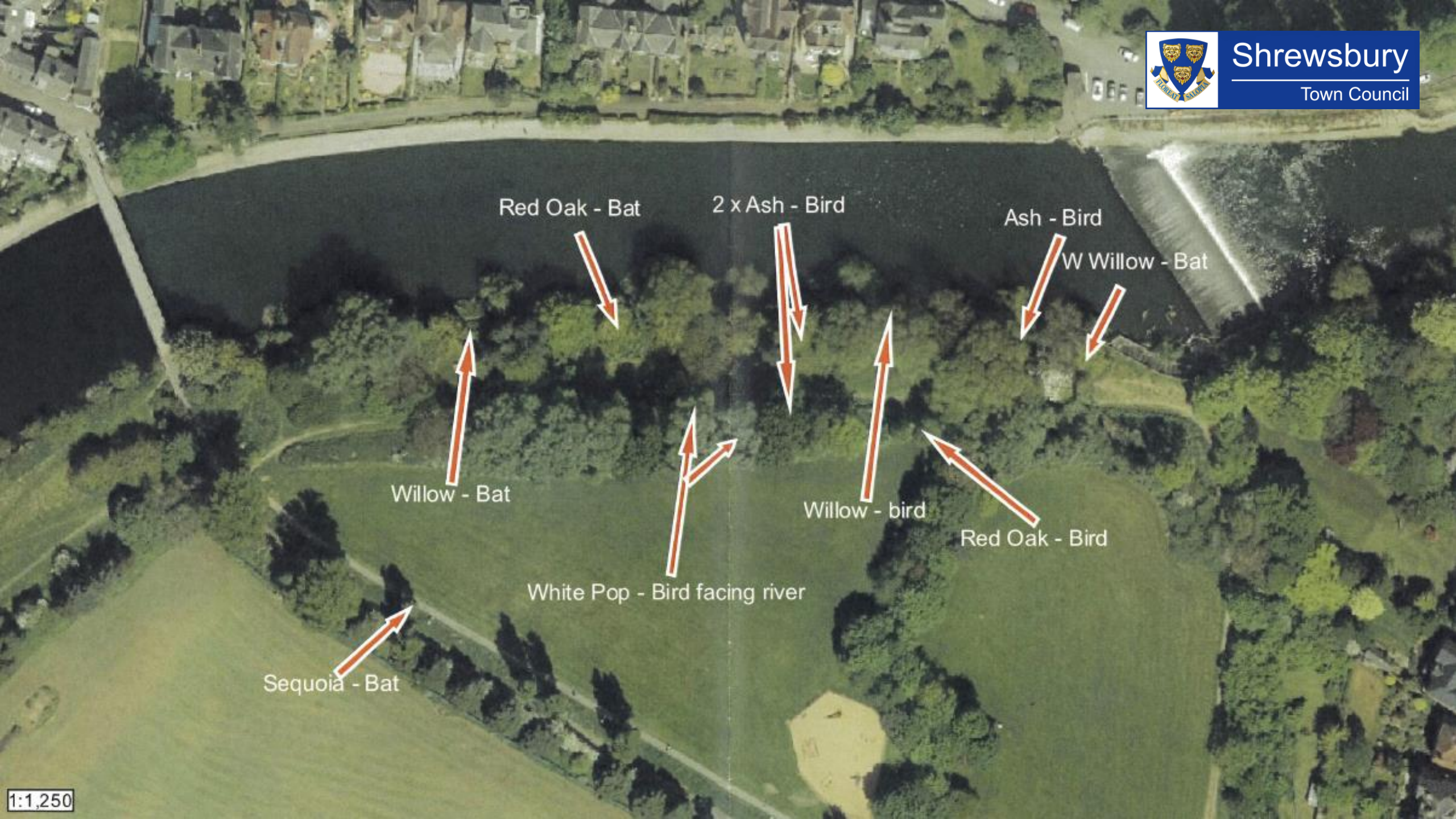
COPTHORNE PARK

YOU



Shrewsbury
Town Council







Shrewsbury

Town Council





Shrewsbury
Town Council







Shrewsbury

Town Council





Shrewsbury

Town Council



1

23

13

9

5

6

7

8

12

10

11



Shrewsbury

Town Council





Shrewsbury
Town Council





Shrewsbury

Town Council





Shrewsbury

Town Council





Shrewsbury

Town Council





Shrewsbury

Town Council





Shrewsbury

Town Council

