

TWG Report to Rodington Parish Council 12.11.2025

The SIDS data for October 2025 have been circulated. The SIDs in Rodington are now in operation.

The major news is that on 24th October 2025 the grade II listed bridge in Longdon-Upon-Tern was hit by a car partially demolishing the structure (a substantial number of blocks were knocked into the river). The incident happened late afternoon. T&W were called out and closed the bridge off, thus cutting off the route through Longdon. It took several days to get appropriate signage in the area and for a few days traffic kept trying to drive through the village. Unfortunately, one driver even moved the barriers put up by the council to get through!

However, the message eventually got through and there has been very little traffic for the last two weeks. There have been odd incidents such as the loaded vehicle transporter which had to reverse all the way back up the hill to Long Lane! Also, a driver who pulled up in the Mill House courtyard and tried to insist that his map showed a through road – it was actually the river!

The bridge being closed has caused an immense amount of upheaval to residents meaning to get round to the other end of Longdon requires going out of the village and via Crudgington! Residents are not happy about this and are anxious for progress.

RPC has written to T&W asking to be kept informed as to progress of the repairs. A crane appeared on Monday and was lifting the blocks out of the river. These are apparently going to Midland Masonry a conservation specialist who will recover what they can. Today, water blocks arrived as well as barriers. I was able to speak to the team who were there from T&W. The damaged part of the bridge has been fenced off. White lines will be put down tomorrow – there will be one lane over the bridge and a metre wide pedestrian footpath. This will be controlled by the pedestrians using push-button traffic lights. These measures are temporary. Work to finally repair the bridge will not start until next spring (apparently the lime mortar which must be used doesn't dry properly in winter). There must also be discussions between T&W planners and English Heritage which will take some months.

I have been updating residents via the Longdon Upon Tern Village Hall Facebook page, and I am happy to continue to do this.

It has been suggested that this might be a good opportunity to seek a meeting with T&W Highways to discuss general traffic issues in the parish – there has after all been two serious incidents in Longdon in the last 4 months (particularly in view of the proposed new developments just outside the parish area).

I do wonder whether the parish council could invite a member of the bridge team to the next meeting of the RPC (which will be held in Longdon). I think residents would be reassured to be part of the consultation process.