Village Pump

February / March 2025 Edition No: 175

A newsletter for Atcham, Berrington, Betton, Brompton, Cantlop, Cross Houses and Eaton Mascott

Published by Berrington Parish Council on behalf of the parishes of Atcham & Berrington

Berrington Parish Council

Berrington Parish Council usually meets at 7pm on the 1st Thursday of every month (except August and sometimes December) at the Chapel Community Centre.

Berrington Parish Council consists of nine elected or co-opted Parish Councillors:

Claire Wild (Chair); Richard Purslow (Vice-Chair); Nick Biggs; Claire Bonsey; Henry Carpenter; Stephy Durkan; Hamish Eccles, Sharlene Hess, and Sue Mason;. Why not come along to one of our meetings. Guests are always welcome. If there is a local issue that concerns you then feel free to ask one of the Councillors for help in representing you in this matter.

Berrington Parish Council Website www.berringtonparishcouncil.org.uk

Clerk: Lorna Pardoe Tel: 07379 213308 Email: berringtonpc@gmail.com

THE PUMP - ADVERTISING RATES

Advertising rates are:
Full Page: £25 per edition or £110 per annum
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1/4 Page (Portrait): £10 per edition or £45 per annum
1/4 Page (Landscape): £10 per edition or £45 per annum
1/8 Page (Landscape): £7.50 per edition or £30 per annum

The Village Pump is a bi-monthly publication of 700 copies. Advertisements need to be paid for in advance. If you would like to place an advert in the Village Pump then please contact the Editor: **Lezley Picton, e: lezley.bpc@gmail.com t: 01743 761619**

The Village Pump is delivered on a bi-monthly basis to houses throughout the Parishes of Berrington and Atcham. If you feel you could help your community by delivering the Pump in your area please contact Lezley Picton on 01743 761619. The more volunteer deliverers we have the smaller the area to deliver. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Please note ACCEPTANCE OF ADVERTISEMENTS DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. THE EDITOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT ARTICLES IF SPACE IS LIMITED.

IMPORTANT

Deadline for the next edition (**April - May)** is **Friday 14th March 2025**

News from your Shropshire Councillor

Claire Wild

Firstly, my very best wishes to you all for the New Year.

NATIONAL TRUST PROPOSED OUTDOOR HUB PLANNING APPLICATION

The National Trust have applied for an Outdoor Hub, with associated facilities including visitor centre, toilet facilities, café and retail. It also includes trails for cycles and walking and play areas. The application sits in the parish of Wroxeter and Uppington but will obviously have a wider impact. This facility, which is situated adjacent to the Atcham Industrial Estate, will be accessed via the Norton Cross Roads. This is a large application with 900 car parking spaces and they initially expect 300,000 visitors a year. This figure is on top of the 600,000 annual visitors to Attingham Park. The application can be viewed on line https://pa.shropshire.gov.uk/online-applications/ using the reference 24/04831/FUL.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING TARGETS

In December 2024 the Government introduced new, mandatory housing targets for England. This will be the biggest change in planning for twenty years. The framework also changes the approach to developments in the Green Belt and will redefine some of the Green Belt as Grey Belt making these areas eligible for development. The impact on the Shropshire Council area is that, prior to the announcement our housing target was 1073 per annum, and the new target is 1994. The Shropshire Council area has had the largest numerical increase in the West Midlands. The consequence of this increase is that the Shropshire Council no longer has a five year land supply which leaves all sustainable areas subject to speculative development. Plan led development which has been consulted upon with communities is always preferable.

In addition to this, as part of the White Paper on Local Government Reorganisation, there is a proposal that, in the future, housing and infrastructure development in our area will be determined by a Regional Spatial Strategy Board. So once we have adopted the draft local plan which takes into account the new housing numbers, this may be the last local plan we develop.

Best wishes,

Claire

t: 01743 255 884 m: 07582 002 100 E-mail: claire.wild@shropshire.gov.uk

Cross Houses Christmas Fairs

Well done to everyone who organised the Christmas Fairs in the village in November and also thanks to everyone who attended raising monies for two vital local charities.

£1,900 raised on Saturday 16th November

MIDLANDS AIR AMBULANCE CHARITY®

£872.52 raised on Saturday 24th November

A Letter from Westminster

Happy New Year!

Within the blink of an eye, 2025 has arrived. I am writing to you, having just begun my recovery from reconstructive surgery on my foot. I suffered a high velocity gunshot wound during a live firing attack at the age of just 17, which shattered my foot and has required treatment ever since. I am using this opportunity to highlight the ongoing physical and mental impact that ex-service personnel face. As home to some 4,000 veterans, I know many others in South Shropshire share this experience. That is why I am so committed to making Shropshire the best place to be a veteran – ensuring it is as easy as possible to access the right support at the right time.

The new year has begun with a scurry of announcements from the government, following the Prime Minister's 'Plan for Change' published in December. Sadly, his Plan does not mention rural areas even once. This is perhaps unsurprising, given the government has decided to plough ahead with its decision to 'redirect' funding previously dedicated to rural areas. Last year, it saw Shropshire Council equipped with an extra £9 million to deliver services. As the Council has reported, Shropshire's rural geography means that it takes longer and costs more to deliver services than it does for most other authorities. Without the necessary support, rural councils may have to resort to steep increases in the council taxes levied on local residents. Due to financial pressures being faced by the Council, it is looking to save an extra £8.5 million and launched a public consultation on ways of doing so. I will continue to stand up for fairer funding for rural council.

On the final week of the parliamentary year, the government announced it will not provide financial compensation to women affected by increases to the State Pension Age. Almost four million women were impacted. The Ombudsman found two incidents of maladministration – in 2005 and then again in 2006 – when the government at the time could have been better in communicating the changes. It has made a clear recommendation that compensation should be paid to those impacted. Ignoring their advice erodes trust in politics. I am calling on Ministers to step up to their responsibilities and take swift action to address injustices inflicted the last time that they were in government.

January has also brought with it news of increasing energy prices, as the Energy Price Cap has increased by a further £21. This will be worrying for many residents across South Shropshire. When added to October's increase, it means that the Cap on typical annual bills has risen by £170 since October – an increase of more than 10 per cent. I want to ensure vulnerable households get the support they need. So, I am pleased to be supporting Energy Savers' Week. It is an annual campaign, this year running between 20th and 26th January 2025, to raise awareness of how to make homes more energy efficient and get the best deal from energy suppliers.

South Shropshire is home to many historic buildings – like the New Market Hall in Bridgnorth. Yet, urgent action is needed to ensure its continued use. So, I was delighted to meet Bridgnorth locals, Huw Rees and Richard North to discuss it. Huw has initiated a petition calling on Shropshire Council to use its powers to acquire the building for the good of the community if urgent remedial action is not taken by the owners. After a decade of disrepair, it is time to revive the building for the future.

This year, the litmus test for me will be whether the government's plans will benefit rural communities, where we have so much unlocked potential to drive economic growth and prosperity. I am clear that the government must not only continue its financial support for farmers but secure a fairer price for their produce, who are too often ripped off by larger companies. I also want to find out your thoughts on what the government should prioritise. Whether it is health, housing, education, or planning your feedback is important to me. So, do visit my website and share your views. If you prefer a paper copy, just let me know.

Kind regards,

Stuart Anderson MP
Member of Parliament for South Shropshire

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11th February - Practical Session

11th March - Demonstration by Trish Payne:

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25th March - Workshop,

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8th April - Mini Demonstration

by Steve Jones, Street Pastor and Member of Shrewsbury Flower Club.

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CHURCH SERVICES and NEWS from ST EATA'S at ATCHAM

There is a Service with Holy Communion [BCP] every Sunday at 11am. Refreshments and chat after the Service on alternate Sundays. Everyone is very welcome.

Ash Wednesday- 5th March- Services at St.Giles 10am & 7.30 pm.

Sunday 30th March- British Summer Time begins - clocks go FORWARD 1 hour

Mothering Sunday- 30th March. This will be a Family Service at 11.15am. No Communion. Posies of Spring Flowers will be presented to all Mums and candles will be lit for those no longer with us. Refreshments served afterwards.

Easter
Palm Sunday - Sunday 13th April - Service 11am
Good Friday - 18th April - 11am
Easter Day Sunday 20th April 11am.

Baptism - 22nd December 2024 Ophelia Lee Bird was welcomed into the Church family

Jim Home - who died on 15th November had been a member of our Congregation for many years serving on the P.C.C. and as a Churchwarden. As a local farmer and a cricketer his Thanksgiving Service on 18th December was attended by a very large gathering. He achieved so much for the benefit of the Church which he loved. Our deepest sympathy to Jackie and all his family and friends. "Grieve not that he is no longer with us, but rather be glad that he was"

Ken Tyrrell - died 27th December and his funeral was held on Wednesday 22nd January . Ken had been a member of St.Eata's congregation for some years and will be sadly missed. Our deepest sympathy to all his family and friends. Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon him.

Advance Notice - Sunday 4th May - Open afternoon at Longner Hall 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Proceeds from the Tea Room to Church. Information about future events will appear on Notice Boards around the Village and in Church. Plan ahead - it wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

Come and join us for tea, coffee and cake on the 1st Friday of each month from 10.30am.

✝ ***Berrington with Betton Strange*** ✝ ***Church Preen*** ✝ ***Cressage*** ✝ ***Cound*** ✝ ***Easthope*** ✝

THE WENLOCK TEAM OF PARISHES

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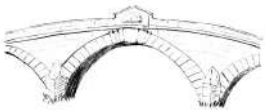
For details of services, more information and contact details regarding the Wenlock Team of Parishes please visit www.wenlockchurches.co.uk or call 01952 727396



Atcham Parish Council

Remembering Jim Hone

The meeting on 8th January began on a sombre note as Chairman Cllr Laura Dixon paid tribute to the late Jim Hone. Known for his immense contribution to the village over the years, Jim was described as a well-respected figure whose loss will be deeply felt by the entire community.

Ongoing

Road Safety at Emstrey Bank: Still pending, with plans to hold a follow-up meeting once the solid white lines have been installed.
Parking Restrictions: Shropshire Councillor Claire Wild confirmed that the formal application for parking restrictions is moving ahead and, if all goes to plan, the work should begin in spring.
Bollards at The Glebe: Installed to stop parking on the grass, and it seems to be doing the job.
Parking for Mytton & Mermaid staff: Construction work at the farm means that old parking arrangements are no longer available. Stuart from Brunning & Price reassured attendees that alternatives are being explored.
Road Resurfacing: The much-anticipated resurfacing of the B4380 is still scheduled for the 2025-26 financial year, though it remains a point of frustration for residents.

Planning application for car park

The Council reviewed a new planning application for a car park near the Old Bridge, south of the B4380. After some discussion, they gave it their support, highlighting several concerns to be addressed, including flood management, public safety, and the ecological and visual impact of the site. A focus on appropriate lighting and landscaping was emphasized given its proximity to historical landmarks.

Parish Council budget and precept

Council approved the proposed budget for 2025-26, requesting a precept of £6,006 which keeps the amount for average Band D households unchanged from last year.

Artists/photographers

We are always on the lookout for photographs of the village and the surrounding area to use on our Facebook page and website. We are also planning to create a new map/interpretation document to go in the new notice board at the Bridge, so if you have artistic skills and fancy giving it a go, please get in touch.

Meeting dates for 2025: 12th March, 14th May (annual meeting), 9th July, 10th September, 12th November.

More information on all the above issues can be found on our website.
Do you have any comments? Or a new idea that might benefit the community? Please come along to one of our meetings or contact the Clerk. Also, don't forget to let us know if you have a community event or local information that you would like us to share online.

Website: atchamparishcouncil.org.uk
Facebook: 'Atcham Parish Council'

Parish Councillors: Laura Dixon (Chair), Simon Adney, Stephen Cook, Keith Daley, Gareth Jones, Martin Ruston, Rob Trow.

Clerk: Alison Utting (atchampc@gmail.com) 01691 622093

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www.berringtonparishcouncil.org.uk & www.atchamparishcouncil.org.uk

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Practice News

Thank you!

On behalf of all the Practice team we would like to say a big thank you to patients for their kindness and generosity during the festive period. We received many lovely Christmas cards, boxes of chocolates, biscuits, mince pies and more which were very much appreciated and enjoyed by the whole team. Thank you.

We would like to wish everyone a very happy and healthy New Year.

Goodbyes

In December Sister Libby retired after 35 years of service at the Practice. Her retirement marks the end of a long career as a Practice Nurse. Over the years Libby has looked after the health of countless generations of patients in Much Wenlock, Cressage and the surrounding area and we would like to thank her for her dedication to the Practice and our patients. Libby's long service was marked by a retirement party at the beginning of January.

In December we also said goodbye and happy retirement to one of our Reception team members, Pat. Pat has worked at the Practice for over 9 years and was a highly regarded member of the Practice team and will also be greatly missed by us all.

New Faces

In August 2024 Trainee GP Dr Mustafa, joined the clinical Practice team and will be working with us until August 2025.

We also welcome Victoria and Jade to our fantastic Reception team, and Jo who returns as a Health Care Assistant.

The NHS is here to support you over the winter. NHS Shropshire Telford and Wrekin have created a Think which service is right for you guide.

- For less urgent health needs, contact your local pharmacy or GP for advice, or visit www.nhs.uk.
- If you need urgent medical help but it's not an emergency, contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk or call 111 for clinical advice, assessment and signposting to the right service.
- For minor injuries, visit your local Minor Injury Unit (MIU), located in Bridgnorth, Ludlow, Oswestry and Whitchurch.
- Call 999 for emergency, life-threatening illnesses or injuries only.

Practice Closure

The Practice will be closed on Thursday 6 February 2025 for staff training from 12.00 to 18:00 hrs. Should you need urgent health care during this time, please contact 111.

COUND AND DISTRICT TENNIS CLUB

Come and join in our fun and social tennis community

https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/coundanddistricttennisclub
or use our Cound and District Tennis Club Homepage QR Code

For membership enquiries please contact us at
membershipatcound@btinternet.com

CROSS HOUSES BOOK CLUB

Do you enjoy reading and would like to discuss your ideas and thoughts with like minded people - then please come and join our small, free, friendly and local book club.

For more information please call Sue on 01743 761355 or email sueshedden52@gmail.com

Reading List

February

"The Bootlegger's Daughter"
- Nadine Nettmann

March

"The Red House" - Roz Watkins

January

"In a Thousand Different Ways"
- Cecilia Ahern

Knit & Natter AT CROSS HOUSES

We are a small group of very friendly ladies who meet on the third Monday of the month, 10am - 12 noon at the Community Room, Noel Hill Road for a chat and to make items for charity events which we run twice a year for local causes - everyone is welcome and you don't have to worry about ability - we are all different and learn from each other whilst having a laugh.

We welcome new members, please come along and join us.
For more information please contact Sue on 01743 761355 / 07773 161635 or email sueshedden52@gmail.com

COUND & DISTRICT CRAFTERS

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at Cound Guildhall 10am - 12 noon. £5 per session, different crafts each meeting.

Everyone is most welcome - new ideas can be incorporated and tried so please come along and join us. Please contact Sue on 01743 761355 or email sueshedden52@gmail.com for more information.

CRESSAGE Gardening Club

Our first entry in the magazine for 2025 so may I begin by wishing everyone a belated Happy New Year.

Our meeting in December saw 24 Gardening Club members, and their guests, enjoying a lovely evening at The Huntsman in Little Wenlock . Good food and great company, what more can you ask for to begin Christmas celebrations?

Our first meeting of the New Year is on Thursday January 16th when we have our AGM. This is always very short and is followed by a socially based evening, catching up with each other, renewing old acquaintances and meeting up with new friends.

Do consider joining our friendly Garden club.
You'll enjoy it even if you don't have 'green fingers'
Contact: Sally on 01694 771271 or 07506 351032

On Thursday February 20th we are pleased to welcome back Chris and Bill Neil, both long standing members of the National Garden Scheme, who will be giving a talk on The History of the NGS. As a Gardening Club several of our visits are to the beautiful gardens that their owners open for the NGS in aid of charity.

It will be very interesting to hear more about how the charity all started and the work that goes on, behind the scenes, to prepare the gardens for us all to visit.

We have a full year of speaker's and visits planned for 2025. The Gardening Club meets on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in Cressage Village Hall, other than August and the summer months when we usually go out on visits.

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Day	**£45**	**£60**
Evening	**£60**	**£80**

Standard sessions consist of 4 hours.

Bookings can be made for timings outside of the session, subject to consideration for other bookings. We try to be as flexible as possible. Costings may be adjusted accordingly. Please request a firm price when booking.

You will be invoiced at the confirmation of the booking with 14 days to pay after the event. Please ensure the invoice number is quoted. Information regarding access to the building on the day will be sent to you beforehand.

A refundable deposit equal to the rate of hire or £50 whichever is lower, is to be paid at the time of booking.

The deposit will be returned to you providing the room/venue is left as per our terms and conditions.

The hirer must be 21 years old or over. Any event must have an adult over the age of 21 present for the whole event.

Please ensure curtains are closed in the main hall for evening rentals, as the hall faces a residential building.

Please do not park in the six parking spaces on the right side as you enter the car park as these belong to residents and visitors of the apartments opposite.

Music must cease at 12:00 midnight. The evening session must finish by 12:30am.

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Friday 14th & 28th March

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Friday 14th & 28th February

Friday 14th & 28th March

Missed Rubbish or Recycling Collections

If your recycling, rubbish or garden waste* is not collected as expected you must report your missed collection to Shropshire Council within two working days by calling **0345 678 9007**. Before you report a missed collection **please wait until 5pm** (because the collection crews may still be out working). Also check:

- that your containers were out on the right day.
- that your containers were out by **7am**
- that your containers were out in the correct place
- that your lid was closed and no extra waste was next to your bin
- that the correct waste was in the containers

Shropshire Council will investigate the incident and if your collection has genuinely been missed they will come back and collect it within two working days.

* Garden Waste will only be collected if you have a paid for subscription https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/recycling-and-rubbish/garden-waste-collections/

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POLICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Our Local Police Team: Tel: 0300 333 3000 ext. 69008. There is also a team e-mail address: shrewsburyre.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
Website: www.westmerciapolice.uk
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You can always contact **Crime Stoppers** on **0800 555 111** if you wish to remain anonymous.

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SUDOKO

4				5			9	
					8		7	
			4			6		2
	1							7
7				8	3		5	
		9			1			
3			6					5
					7		8	
						1	6	

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3 x 3 squares contains all the digits from 1-9.

SUDOKU X

9								
1		8	5					
							2	7
8					5		4	
						8	6	
						1		
				6				1
		4				9		
2		1			9	6	7	

Complete the grid so that every row, column, diagonal and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 - 9 inclusive.

News from Christ Church C.E. Primary School

Preparing, Sowing, Growing

A Happy New Year from all of us at Christ Church Primary School!

Farewell

Our Christ Church community said a sad farewell to Tracey Cansdale, our headteacher of 8 years, who will by the time you are reading this, be settling into her new school, as Headteacher, in Radcliffe near Manchester. She had led our school with such empathy, kindness and inclusivity, with both children and adults, making it the friendly, family-orientated place it is today. Tracey will be greatly missed, but she leaves a strong team at Christ Church, who have a passion for continuing to develop Christ Church and have already put plans in place for what our school vision of 'preparing, sowing, growing' looks like as we enter 2025.

New Leadership Team

Our new leadership team: (from left to right)

Miss Rachael Fortune – Acting Deputy Head of School and SENDCO, Mrs Emma Clarke – Acting Head of School and Mr Henry Bray – acting Executive Headteacher.

In the Spring, Christ Church will be joining a Multi-Academy Trust, as one of the founder schools, meaning our school will have more leadership capacity than has been possible as a local authority school. From January 2025, Christ Church will have a new leadership model of an Executive Headteacher, Mr Henry Bray, a Head of School, Mrs Emma Clarke and a Deputy Head of School, Miss Rachael Fortune. Mr Bray is an experienced Headteacher, having led Meole Brace CE Primary School and Nursery for the past six years. Mrs Clarke has worked at Christ Church since 2011 and currently teaches Years 5/6 at Christ Church. Emma has lived locally in Harnage, since 1996, was married at Cound Church and has a great love and understanding of our school and the local area. Miss Fortune, who has also lived in the local area for much of her life, has taught Years 1/2 at Christ Church since 2020 and is now our SENDCO. Together, we feel very privileged to be taking on our new roles at Christ Church and are looking forward to leading the school onto further successes over the next years.

Emma Clarke, Acting Head of School

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VISIT US AND SEE WHAT WE ARE LIKE?

If you have a child who is about to turn 3 or will be in the near future and you would like to discuss nursery places, please ring or email us and we would be happy to show you around school and you can meet Mrs Martin who leads our EYFS unit.

You can ring the office: **01952 510383** and make an appointment to come and see school during the school day or afterwards –we can find a mutually convenient time. We love showing prospective parents around as we are very proud of our school.

Follow us on FaceBook for regular news and updates: **@ChristChurchSY5**

Our website is also full of updates and information: christchurchcressage.co.uk

You can email us on admin@christchurch.shropshire.sch.uk **to book a look around.**

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Atcham Parish Council Clerk	01691 622093
Cressage Surgery	01952 511166
Samaritans	01743 369696
Crime Stoppers	0800 555 111
Shrewsbury Police Station	0300 333 3000
Bromford Housing Association	0330 1234 034
Homes Plus	0800 048 8955
Councillor Claire Wild	01743 255 884 / 07582 002 100
Citizens Advice Bureau	0808 278 7894
Age UK	01743 233123
Domestic Abuse Helpline	0808 2000 247
Cruse Bereavement Care Helpline	0808 808 1677
Berrington Parish Council Clerk	07379 213308
Gas Emergency Services	0800 111 999
National Rail Enquiries	03457 48 49 50
Shrewsbury Dial-a-Ride	01743 45350
NHS Direct	111
NHS Direct Text Phone (for deaf/hard of hearing)	18001 111
Shropshire Council	0345 678 9000
Severn Trent (water and sewerage)	0800783 4444
Shropshire Home Point	0300 303 8595
Village Pump Editor	01743 761619
Shropshire Council (Streets, Roads and Transport)	0345 678 9006 (inc out of hours)
Bins & Recycling (Missed Collections)	0345 678 9007.
Royal Shrewsbury Hospital	01743 261000
Princess Royal Hospital, Telford	01952 641222
National Grid (Emergency)	0800 6783 105
National Grid	0800 096 3080
RSPCA (cruelty hotline)	0300 1234 999
Floodline	0345 988 1188
Dog Fouling (Reporting) - Longden Road Depot	0345 678 9006

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