Village Pump

April - May 2025 Edition No: 177

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 consists of nine elected or co-opted Parish Councillors:

There are elections for Berrington Parish Council on Thursday 1st May 2025. Details of the new Councillors will be published in the next edition of the Village Pump.

The first meeting of Berrington Parish Council, for the new municipal year, will be on Thursday 7th May at 7pm at the Chapel Community Centre.

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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1/8 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**

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 the editor. The more volunteer deliverers we have the smaller the area to deliver. We look forward to hearing from you.

ADVERTISEMENT DISCLAIMER

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 (**June - July**) is **Friday 16th May 2025**

News from your Shropshire Councillor

Claire Wild

SPEED REDUCTION ON A458 THROUGH CROSS HOUSES

The 30mph speed limit extension on the A458 through Cross Houses is now complete. The council have also completed the speed reduction on the road between Cross Houses and Atcham, now 40mph. The additional Vehicle Activated Signs and road markings will be completed shortly.

REPAIRS TO B4380 THROUGH ATCHAM

On the 25th April there will be carriage way repairs to the B4380 from Emstrey Island to the B5061 Junction (turning to Wroxeter). There will be a road closure in place between the hours 09:30 - 16:00. It may be a moving closure or one lane at a time.

In the long term the road needs to be resurfaced as opposed to surface dressed. I am hopeful that this work will be completed towards the end of the new financial year.

AND FINALLY……

I have decided, after 26 years as the Councillor for this area that I will not seek re-election on the 1st of May for Shropshire Council. It has been an enormous honour and privilege to be your elected representative.

When I look back over the years there has been significant change in our villages. We've welcomed many new residents to the area , especially to the new housing developments. It was due to the redevelopment of the old Cross Houses Hospital site that I was able to secure the Chapel Community Centre, a well loved and fabulous facility, and also the allotments. We also have two iconic bus shelters that are the envy of villages across the UK, we know this as many councils have been to look at them!

I have very much enjoyed working with both Parish Councils and all the community groups that make our villages such a great place to live. I will continue to support these groups and attend the many events that take place across the year.

My very best wishes to you all.

Claire

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

CROSS HOUSES VILLAGE SHOW

Back by popular demand

Details in next edition of the Village Pump

Sunday 31st August

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A Letter from Westminster

Following my operation, I am grateful that I have been able to make a gradual return to activities, holding advice surgeries in Church Stretton, Highley and Bishop's Castle. It has also been excellent to visit many schools across in South Shropshire from Newcastle-on-Clun to Dorrington and to Clee Hill. As a parent, I want to do everything I can to ensure our children get the very best start in life. Our teachers and support staff are amazing role models for young people and must be supported.

When it emerged that the water quality at the River Teme bathing site in Ludlow had been deemed 'poor', I called on Ministers to make urgent improvements. I then met with the Environment Agency and attended an event marking the launch of an innovative, new scheme to improve data available to the community and identify sources of pollution. It is welcome that Ludlow is the centre of this pioneering work. I hope to see a marked improvement as a result. I also raised the proposed 'River Onny Pipeline' project, which I am monitoring closely. I am also in conversation with residents and Severn Trent about this development.

Crime has a devastating impact on lives in South Shropshire. The Police must be equipped with the resources needed to keep our communities safe. This year, West Mercia Police is due to receive an extra £11.9 million compared to last year. However, a huge deficit is left due to inflation, demand, and increased costs from hikes in employer's National Insurance Contributions (NICs). The £4.2 million needed to cover increases to NICs represents the equivalent of over 80 police officers. Under the previous government, the number of police officers rose to 149,769 – the highest number on record. I am worried that September's headcount is already down 883 officers. I hope that these issues are quickly addressed.

I am delighted that Ludlow Train Station now has step-free access, after my predecessor Philip Dunne secured investment from the Department for Transport for new lifts. It was excellent to attend the opening. Accessibility is a key part of daily life for many residents. If you don't consider it, you're basically saying to them 'you cannot travel this way'. I want to help secure more investment into infrastructure in South Shropshire. I helped secure £6,000 for road safety in Morville. This follows a meeting I convened in November with key partners including Police and Crime Commissioner John Campion. The funding is for new Vehicle Activated Speed signs in Morville. It is part of a wider strategy to improve road safety in the village, which includes an extension of the speed limit and gateway improvements.

I am thrilled that two local businesses have been shortlisted for the Countryside Alliance Awards, known as the 'Rural Oscars'. It is testament to the hard work and dedicated efforts of both Ludlow's 'All the Seasons' and Vine & Co from Church Stretton. I urge everyone to throw their support behind them before public voting closes on 6th April 2025. Pubs like The Queens in Ludlow also play a vital role in the rural economy, supporting hundreds of jobs. Yet, they are deeply concerned about their prospects under this new government following tax hikes which will cost them thousands of pounds. I was glad to nominate Tim and Jane Vaughan to attend a roundtable in Parliament with Shadow Business Secretary Andrew Griffith MP. Their valuable insights will help us to be a strong and effective opposition.

It is also concerning that a record number of councils have had to seek extra financial support from the government. It follows a massive shake up of local government funding, which has stripped rural councils of over £100 million direct funding. I have written to Ministers on four different occasions to request a fairer settlement for rural areas like ours. I will continue to campaign for more equitable funding that recognises the unique challenges of delivering public services in remote communities like South Shropshire.

Kind regards,

Stuart Anderson MP
Member of Parliament for South Shropshire

Constituency Office
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Monthly Meetings - 7pm (7.15pm start)

Thursday 8th April - *Mini Demonstration by Steve Jones, Street Pastor and Member of Shrewsbury Flower Club.*

Thursday 13th May - *Practical Evening*

Thursday 10th June - *Talk with floral accompaniments: Memoirs of an Accidental Birder: Barbara & Debbie*

Thursday 25th June - *Wedding Flowers Workshop with Trish & Barbara*

ADVANCE NOTICE for 8th JULY

Club Open Evening – Everyone Welcome

"FLOWERY ADVENTURES"

by Guest NAFAS Demonstrator Lynne Williams

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CHURCH SERVICES and NEWS from ST EATA'S at ATCHAM

There is a Eucharist {BCP} every Sunday at 11 a.m. Everyone is most welcome at this Service. Tea, coffee and cake on alternate Sundays.

Sunday 13th April - Palm Sunday

Thursday 17th April - Maundy Thursday - Service at 6 p.m.

Friday 18th April - Good Friday - Service at 11 a.m.

Sunday 20th April - Easter Day - Service at 11 a.m.

Sunday 27th April - " Blessing of the Animals" Service - 11 a.m. At Home Farm, Attingham.

Monday 28th April - Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 7 p.m.

Sunday 4th May - Longner Gardens Open afternoon - 2p.m. Proceeds from Tea Pavilion to St.Eata's Church.

Sunday 6th July - CHURCH FETE and DUCK RACE - Ducks will be on sale at various events [£1 each] leading up to the Fete and on the day.

ADVANCE NOTICE- Saturday 11th October- 7 p.m. Oktoberfest with Brassic Oompah Band at Home Farm, Attingham. More details later. Come on you gentlemen, polish up your Lederhosen.

COFFEE MORNINGS - in Church on the 1st Friday of each Month from 10.30 a.m. Onwards.

FOOD BANK - over the Easter weekend there will be a table at the back of Church to receive items for the Food Bank and the Ark. Thanks in advance for all your donations.

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

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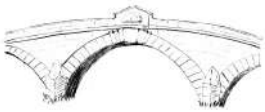
For details of services, more information and contact details regarding the Wenlock Team of Parishes please visit www.wenlockchurches.co.uk or call 01952 727396



Atcham Parish Council

Elections

Both parish and unitary councils have elections on 1st May. Details of how to submit a nomination are on our notice boards and on Shropshire Council's website.

Road traffic incidents

A reminder from West Mercia Police that dashcam footage of near-misses, dangerous driving, etc. can be submitted online and can lead to successful penalties and prosecutions.

Parish councils working together

We worked with Wroxeter & Uppington Parish Council to arrange a joint community meeting with representatives of the National Trust to consider the recent planning application for an Outdoor Hub.

Highways

Some temporary road repairs are scheduled for the B4380 between Emstrey and the Wroxeter junction. These will be carried out on 25th April (involving road closure for the day) but a date for the proper resurfacing in Atcham is yet to be confirmed.
Both the TRO for Atcham (parking restrictions) and additional lining to be done at Emstrey are now waiting for a quote to be submitted by the contractor (Keir) and then will be scheduled into Shropshire Council's programme of works.

Facebook page

For up-to-date information on local issues, follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/atchampc

Annual parish meeting

This will be held prior to the normal parish council meeting on Monday 14th May, starting at 7pm.

Meeting dates for 2025: 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

Much Wenlock & Cressage Patient's Voice

The MWC Patient's Voice held their AGM in March and were delighted to have members of the Practice population in attendance who were invited to stay and observe the Patient's Voice meeting which followed.

If you are interested in hearing more about the group and its role as critical friend to the Practice please contact the Patient's Voice secretary, Brian Nelson at nelson@wroxeter.net or contact the Practice on 01952 726011.

STW Nursing Awards

In February, the General Practice Nursing Awards were held where Libby Collinson, who recently retired from our practice, received a Long Service Award for 48 years of service.

Congratulations Libby and we wish you well for your retirement.

Practice Bank Holiday Closures

The practice will be closed on
Friday 18th April & **Monday 21st April**.

Should you need urgent care during this time, please contact 111.

Zero Tolerance

Unfortunately, we have noticed an increase in the number of verbally demanding and aggressive contacts by patients in the past few months. Whilst we recognise the frustration of patients with a seemingly failing NHS system, (we are, after all, patients ourselves); rudeness and aggressive behaviour is unwarranted.

Please respect our staff and approach them as you would wish to be.

Thank you for your consideration.

Much Wenlock & Cressage COCO Volunteer Service

Compassionate communities is a local initiative to tackle loneliness and isolation. It is free and open to all.

We are all different, so the type and amount of care and support we can give varies greatly, but at the heart of what we do is befriending. Here is an idea of the kind of support we offer: Befriending, visiting, listening and chatting. Reading or listening to music. Playing games. Shopping for or together. Walking the dog or feeding pets. Attending appointments together.

We need volunteers, if you can spare as little as an hour every couple of weeks, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the practice 01952 726011.

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

Future Club Events: **13th April** - American Tournament Social Event - 2.00pm - 5.00pm * **18th May** - French Open Fun Grand Slam Social Event - 2.00pm - 5.00pm * **8th June** - Summer Family Fun Day - 11.00am - 3.00pm * **29th June** - Wimbledon Fun Grand Slam Social Event - 2.00pm - 5.00pm **July TBC** - Wenlock Olympics Tournament Juniors & Adults - 10.00am - 4.00pm

Adult beginners courses, adults drills & cardio, Juniors Saturday coaching and private lessons

Please contact Club Coach Graham Hart on 07960 970 017 or email hartg734@aol.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

April

"In a Thousand Different Ways" - Cecilia Ahern

May

"Demon Copperhead" - Barbara Kingsolver

June

"The Stranger in my Home" - Adele Parks

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.

A great turn out from Gardening Club members and visitors at our February meeting heard a very interesting talk from Chris and Bill Neil about the history of the NGS scheme. Chris explained how and when it started and the huge amount of money raised for charity. She then went on to describe how they had created their own garden and then opened it for this very worthwhile cause. Bill did an excellent job providing all the photographs of their work on the screen.

As I write this we are still to have our March meeting when Mike Poultney will be speaking about 'A year on the plot', all about growing and getting the most out of his vegetable garden.

CRESSAGE Gardening Club

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 April 17th we will be welcoming back Alison Wakeman who will be entertaining us with her second talk about keeping bees. If it's as entertaining as her first talk we shall be in for a good evening.

Varying dates for the publication of local magazines can make it difficult to keep you well informed about the various speakers and events for our Gardening Club but all of our meetings, except for our summer visits, are held in Cressage Village Hall, on the third Thursday of the month, starting at 7.30 pm. We always welcome new members and visitors to all of our meetings.

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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.

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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 11t & 25th April

Friday 9th & 23rd May

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
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TWO LOAD SIZES AVAILABLE

NO DELIVERY CHARGE

Lengths cut to suit your needs

m: 07860 419025

t: 01694 731621 (after 7pm)

SUDOKO

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

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

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

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

Is your child starting school this year?

It is the time of year when Primary School 'Offer Day' happens. If your child will be 4 by 31st August 2025, then they are due to start school in September 2025. We are really excited to make contact with the families who have applied for places with us and will be offering our new children some transition sessions in the Summer term. Watch out for an email from us with more details, after offer day on Wednesday 16th April.

We have had a busy Spring term so far, with all classes immersing themselves in their topics with visits or trips. Our Nursery and Acorns Class (Reception) have been learning about 'Night and Day Animals' and met tree frogs, bearded dragons, skunks, otters and snakes when they visited the Exotic Zoo in Telford. We encourage hands-on experiences for our children to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the world. We loved the looks of delight on their faces when they encounter a new animal.

Oak Class (Years 5 and 6) have been exploring the Maya civilisation this term and were visited by a real Maya archaeologist, Dr Diane Davies. She told stories of her exploration of the Maya region and her discoveries of the ancient ruins. Our children were able to look at genuine Maya artefacts, made from jade, obsidian and pottery. They now possess a wealth of knowledge about the Maya people and are ready to start writing their non-chronological reports in English, which we will all look forward to hearing then read in class.

Emma Clarke, Acting Head of School

We have spaces in our Nursery for children who are 3 or over in the Summer term.
We have a wonderful setting and accept 15 or 30 hour vouchers. As a school we are 'not for profit' which means we don't have lots of extra charges and you can use your hours flexibly.

Does your child need a Nursery place in September?
If your child will be 3 by 1st September, then please come and have a look at Little Acorns and meet our staff and chat to us informally.

Would you like to visit us and see what we are like?

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 (until 1st May 2025)	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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