# MINUTES OF BERRINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## Held at 6.30pm on 7 May 2026
## at Chapel Community Centre, Cross Houses

**Present:** Parish Councillors H Carpenter (Chair), A Abbott, N Biggs, H Eccles, M Rathbone, and Shropshire Councillor S Coleman

**Clerk:** Lisa Harris

Three members of the public were present

**1. Apologies**

None.

**2. Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

**It was proposed** by Councillor Biggs and seconded by Councillor Eccles and

**Resolved (without opposition)**

that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8 May 2025 be accepted as a true record.

The minutes were signed accordingly by the Chair.

**3. Any items arising from previous minutes**

None.

**4. Annual Reports**

- **Chair of Berrington Parish Council**

  Councillor Carpenter gave a summary of parish council matters which had arisen over the course of the previous municipal year. His report covered:

  - Planning - The most significant issue had been the planning application for the development of 55 properties at Ridout Road. There had been good community engagement which had been passionate yet respectful. The Parish Council has relayed the concerns raised, which are mainly regarding access but also about positioning and spacing of properties.

  - Speeding - The Parish Council is trying hard with the relevant authorities, to move forward with the ongoing issue of speeding within the area. Councillor Coleman's support and involvement with this matter was acknowledged and appreciated.

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- Village Pump magazine - Thanks were extended to Andrew Abbott for taking over the editorship. It was noted that it is a good informative read and the community is grateful that it continues to be published.

- Chapel Community Centre - It has taken quite some time to work out a new personnel structure but now almost at the point of having built a full team of volunteers. The reason the Chapel Community Centre is such an asset to the community is primarily down to one person. Richard Purslow is known by many in the area as a long-standing parish councillor and as head of the Community Centre Management Committee. He has shown unmatched dedication in both these positions, going above and beyond what is expected and our community has benefitted greatly as a result. Richard has done so much for the Parish and understandably wishes to regain some balance in his life. He resigned as a councillor last year and is now stepping away from his role with the Community Centre. To acknowledge his vast contribution to the Parish, Richard was presented with a small token of appreciation on behalf of the community.

- Parish Councillors – Councillor Carpenter thanked his fellow councillors who volunteer their time to contribute and support the community. Wished Councillor Nick Biggs well with his retirement from the Parish Council and thanked him for his diligent contribution over the last six years.

- Clerk - Lorna Pardoe has retired as the clerk after over a decade in the role. Having selflessly deferred her retirement for a year, she has been invaluable in guiding and supporting the relatively inexperienced parish council since it was formed in May 2025. As a personal thank you from the councillors, Lorna was presented with a David Austin rose.

- **Shropshire Councillor for the Severn Valley**

  Councillor Susan Coleman gave the following report:

  "I can't believe that it is a year and 6 days since I was elected as the Shropshire Councillor for the Severn Valley and taken over from Claire Wild. A hard act to follow but Claire had been a huge support in the lead up to the election showing me around virtually every nook and cranny of the Severn Valley. I hope that you have seen from what I have done that I am your local councillor, rather than your local Conservative councillor as I'm here to get things done and make a difference. I've attended all but one parish council meeting over the last year and try to attend as many local events as possible to be a visible presence in the community.

  I spend a lot of time pushing the Highways department at Shropshire Council on speed control. We have finally got two-thirds of it done with the speed limits changed but I'm still chasing the VAS. I'm pleased to have helped out a bit with the Berrington village pump repair project that has been led by Marcia Rathbone. Managed to get a couple of officers from Shropshire Council to make a site visit and they have lifted the temporary closure of the footpath. Have supported the Parish Council and residents' objections to the planning application, which were considerable. There was a good turn-out for the consultation as people felt very strongly and passionately about it. Amy from Berrys did very well fielding the comments and went away and got a lot of the changes made that people asked for. It is a good sign that they listened to community concerns and they have made amendments to the planning application accordingly. Will probably not know the decision regarding the planning application until mid-June/early July. I have pushed for pothole repairs – there was a particularly bad one on Noel Hill Road that

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residents were complaining about. It has now been repaired – not perfect but better than it was. Shropshire Council continues to experience considerable financial difficulties which have a big impact on what I can achieve as your Shropshire Councillor when pressing to get things done.

I will keep pushing to get things done by Shropshire Council as I have easier access to council officers than parish councillors or members of the public."

- **Chapel Community Centre**

  Covered in Chair's Report

- **Allotments**

  No report available.

**5. Parish Matters**

None notified.

The meeting closed at 6.54pm.

Signed: ..... Date: .....
Chair

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