# BERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Chair: Cllr Henry Carpenter** **Clerk: Lisa Harris**
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## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
## Held on 3 September 2026 at Chapel Community Centre, Cross Houses

**Present:** Parish Councillors H Carpenter (Chair), A Abbott, J Adney, H Eccles, S Hess, A Yeomans and Shropshire Councillor S Coleman

**Clerk:** Lisa Harris

**Also present:** 4 members of the public

**66.26 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Councillors M Rathbone and C Morris.

**67.25 Co-option of new councillor**

The Casual Vacancy had been advertised on the Parish Council's website and noticeboards and in The Village Pump. One application had been received by the Clerk and as the applicant met the eligibility criteria to become a parish councillor, the vacancy could be filled by Mr Eric Brayne.

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

**resolved (without opposition)**

that Mr Eric Brayne be co-opted as a Parish Councillor. Mr Brayne then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk and joined the other councillors at the table.

**ACTION:** Clerk to advise Shropshire Council's Monitoring Officer of the co-option. Councillor Brayne to then complete the Disclosable Pecuniary Interests form online within 28 days of receiving it. Clerk to also set up Councillor Brayne with a .gov.uk email address.

**68.26 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

a) No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.

b) There were no applications for a dispensation regarding disclosable pecuniary interests.

**69.26 Public Participation Session** – *a period of 15 minutes will be set aside for the public to speak, with a strict 5-minute limit per speaker. Members of the public may speak on matters appearing on the agenda. However, if a matter does not appear on the agenda, a written request should be submitted to the Clerk no later than 2 working days before the meeting.*

The members of the public present did not wish to speak.

**70.26 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2 July 2026**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

**It was proposed** by Councillor Adney and seconded by Councillor Yeomans and

**resolved (without opposition)**

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2 July 2026 be accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed accordingly.

**71.26 Clerk's report on matters arising since the Parish Council Meeting on 2 July 2026**

- The replacement noticeboard at the petrol station has been fitted.
- Researched recycled plastic bench to be potentially sited on the green at Berrington Meadows. Provided anonymous donor with information and now awaiting approval.
- Located then scanned/compressed copies of The Village Pump from edition 100 to current edition and published to the website.
- Emailed Econergy (a general contact email address) regarding community benefit relating to Berrington Solar Farm. Emailed the contact provided by Mr Healey and also tried calling. Left a voicemail message. No response received to date to any forms of contact.
- Arranged for Lloyds bank to set up a Fixed Term Deposit Account and transferred £60K from Commercial Instant Access Account. Transferred £3,648 from the solar farm account to the main account to reimburse the payment made for the repair of Berrington village pump which was coming out of the community benefit money paid by Quintas Energy.
- In early August received an email from Tracey Onslow, Assistant Police & Crime Commissioner advising that West Mercia Police's Road Safety team had agreed to do some speed monitoring on the A458 at Cross Houses. It was anticipated that this would be carried out by the end of August with results available by the end of September which would hopefully provide evidence for next steps action. On 3 September received a follow-up email which advised that speed data had been obtained the week commencing 10 August 2026 in the 30mph speed limit zone:

  "The mean speed was 23mph and the 85$^{th}$ percentile speed was 26 mph – therefore both below the enforcement threshold. Of a total of 88383 vehicles recorded, only 0.8% were over the posted speed limit. As you would expect, there were vehicles that did exceed the speed limit during that week, but these were very much small in number and therefore it would not be appropriate to deploy enforcement resources from the Road Safety Team. Although this means that further enforcement will not be carried out, hopefully it provides some reassurance."

  The APCC also advised that the PCC would be writing to Shropshire Council to chase up the installation of the VAS.
- Having been advised by a parishioner that the bin on the playing field was full and apparently was no longer being emptied, contacted the relevant department at Shropshire Council who investigated and the emptying service, as confirmed by parishioner, has been reinstated on the collection schedule.
- Received email from a parishioner regarding the overgrown Princess of Wales memorial cherry tree at the church and the general state of the churchyard. Advised that the Parish Council has no powers to carry out or instruct for any tree works to be conducted on church property. Suggested that parishioner attend the community meeting about the church restoration on 27 August in Berrington Village Hall where they could speak to someone involved with the project and raise these concerns and hopefully get the necessary works actioned.

- A parishioner had emailed raising the issue of pigeons in The Chestnuts. Apparently, they are attracted to roof top solar panels and are causing a health concern. Questioning whether there is anything the community can do to manage the pigeon population. The Parish Council discussed the matter and unfortunately no solution could be found.

  **ACTION:** Clerk to respond to the parishioner advising that regrettably this was a problem that the Parish Council could not help with as there was no obvious way of remedying the situation.

- Abandoned car in The Chapel Community Centre carpark – Vauxhall Corsa DU58 CGG, untaxed since 1 April 2026 but MOT valid until 30 March 2027. Unable to report to Shropshire Council via FixMyStreet as it is not on a public road. Police are not interested as it is abandoned on private land. Council will get involved to remove but at a substantial cost (officer attendance £30, administration cost £70, vehicle removal £300, storage cost £10 per day).

- Email received from a resident of The Chestnuts wishing to adopt a strip of land adjacent to their property. The request was considered but the Parish Council concluded that unfortunately it was unable to help because the land in question is managed by Greenbelt Holdings on behalf of the owners, Persimmon Homes.

  **ACTION:** Clerk to respond to the parishioner advising that neither Berrington Parish Council nor Shropshire Council has any say over how this piece of privately owned land is allocated.

**72.26 Shropshire Councillor's Report**

Councillor Coleman gave a brief report on Shropshire Council matters concerning the Severn Valley:

- Still chasing the VAS installations and will now be advising the Strategic Infrastructure Works Manager at Shropshire Council that he should expect a letter from the PCC imminently about this matter.

- Had attended the Village Show in Cross Houses on 23 August which was lovely but unfortunately not that well attended. Councillor Abbott advised that the organisers had apparently been emailing the wrong address about getting the event publicised, but this issue had now been sorted and hopefully next year the promotion would be better.

- The Hills Ford Stages Rally will be taking place on 19 & 20 September, and the route passes through the Severn Valley with residents in Cound being particularly affected by the disruption. Both Councillor Coleman and Cound Parish Council had objected strongly to the road closures but unfortunately it appears to have been to no avail.

- Shropshire Council continues to be "financially challenged" and are selling off assets wherever possible to raise funds. Also looking at closing down Cornovii Homes to save money. Expect more cuts to non-statutory services.

- Waiting on a decision regarding the planning application for an additional car park in Atcham for The Mytton & Mermaid. There appears to be a good level of local support for the application which would bring economic benefit to the area.

- Still no conclusion on the planning application for the extension to Berrington Meadows. Planning Committee meetings have been cancelled as decisions are being delegated to Planning Officers. Will be chasing with the relevant Planning Officer when they return from annual leave.

**73.26 To receive any relevant updates from parish councillors**

- Councillor Adney had been asked by a parishioner when the work on the solar farm at Berrington was likely to start. A definite answer could not be given although there were rumours of it happening in the second quarter of 2027.
- Councillor Eccles advised that Boreton Bridge had reopened and Shropshire Council had done a good job of the repair work. Unfortunately, the bridge had been scraped twice already by large vehicles.
- Councillor Carpenter reported that there were two ash saplings near the oil tank outside The Chapel Community Centre which needed to be removed.

  **ACTION:** Clerk to contact environmental maintenance contractor to arrange for the saplings to be removed.

**74.26 Current financial matters:**

**a) Payments**

| Payee | Description | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| Ms R Yeomans | Caretaker's salary August & September | £ 737.24 |
| Miss L Harris | Clerk's salary August & September | £ 1377.24 |
| HMRC | PAYE on Clerk's salary August & September | £ 344.40 |
| HMRC | Employer NI for August & September | £ 133.14 |
| Miss L Harris | Clerk's expenses August & September | £ 456.48 |
| Playsafety Limited | RoSPA annual report on playing field | £ 99.60 |
| Mr R Purslow | Fitting of new noticeboard | £ 45.00 |
| Mr R Purslow | Painting of hut on playing field | £ 345.00 |
| National Trust | Six monthly rental charge - playing field | £ 111.49 |
| SJF Design & Print | Printing of Aug/Sep edition of The Village Pump | £ 385.00 |
| Shropshire Council | Joint energy cost Q2 | £ 216.76 |
| | **TOTAL** | £ 4168.59 |

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

**resolved (without opposition)**

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

**b) Bank reconciliation to 27 August 2026**

The bank was reconciled at £125,384.13, being the online banking balance on the date the meeting agenda was prepared. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed accordingly.

**75.26 Planning**

**1. Decisions to note**

**a. Ref: 26/01540/AG1**

Address: Meadow Bank Farm Condover Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 7DB

Description: Erect a livestock shed to house younger cattle

Validated: 4 Jun 2026

Status: Grant Permission

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking

here

**2. Planning applications for consideration**

**a. Ref: 25/04876/FUL**

Address: Cliff House Berrington Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6HL

Description: Amendment to the approved cable route associated with Berrington Solar Farm (Planning Ref: 22/04355/FUL), proposing an alternative 2,220-metre underground loop-in loop-out grid connection

Validated: 14 Jan 2026

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking here

**b. Ref: 25/03909/VRA106**

Address: 32 High Cross Avenue Cross Houses Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6LJ

Description: Variation of Section 106 Legal Obligation pursuant to S/90/227/61/90 and S/90/1102/61/90 to allow for an amendment to the discounted price

Validated: 17 Oct 2025

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking here

**c. Ref: 25/02751/FUL**

Address: Land To The East Of Ridout Road Cross Houses Shrewsbury Shropshire

Description: Residential development for 55No. dwellings

Validated: 19 Sep 2025

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking here

**d. Ref: 26/02598/FUL**

Address: Tarmac Ltd Bayston Hill Quarry Sharpstones Lane Bayston Hill Shrewsbury Shropshire SY3 0AW

Description: Installation of a ground mounted solar photovoltaic array of up to 3MW, a battery energy storage system (up to 3.5 MWh), underground cabling to the adjacent quarry, security fencing, CCTV and track

Validated: 28 Jul 2026

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking here

**3. Applications received after the agenda has been prepared**

None

It was agreed that more time was needed to fully consider planning application 26/02598/FUL. Therefore, an extraordinary meeting would be convened on Tuesday 8 September at 7.00pm in Berrington Village Hall for the sole purpose of considering this

planning application.

**76.26 To consider the environmental maintenance schedule in readiness for putting out to tender**

Councillor Abbott had updated and added further detail to the existing environmental maintenance schedule. This was fully studied by the Parish Councillors, and a number of additions were made (including strimming of the churchyard) in readiness for putting the 2027-2029 contract out to tender. Applications would be sought then considered at the November meeting when the contract would be awarded to the successful candidate.

**ACTION:** Clerk to prepare the tender document and advertise on the website and parish noticeboards.

**77.26 Correspondence**

Nothing beyond what already discussed elsewhere on the agenda.

**78.26 Future agenda items**

- Appointment of the environmental maintenance contractor for the 2027-2030 term.
- Measures to ensure effective data back up and recovery systems are in place.

**79.26 Date of next meeting**

Thursday 5 November 2026, The Chapel Community Centre, Cross Houses at 7.00pm.

The Chair thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 8.16pm.

Signed by Chair: ..... Date: 5 November 2026