

# THE CORVEDALE NEWS

JUNE 2024  
*The Corvedale's Community Magazine*



Rapeseed in Full Flower - Alison Cope

Printed Copy £8.00 per annum

Digital Copy £5.00 per annum

# COMMUNITY CONTACTS & SUPPORT

## SOUTH SHROPSHIRE CITIZENS ADVICE



To access information and advice:

**FREE Shropshire Adviceline:** 0808 278 7894  
(Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 4.00pm)

**Specialist Debt Team:** 01742 280 019  
(Monday - Friday, 10.00am - 4.00pm)

**FREE Consumer Helpline:**  
0808 223 1133

**FREE Universal Credit: Help to claim:**  
0800 144 8 444

**On the web:** [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

## PHILIP DUNNE

**Member of Parliament for the  
Ludlow Constituency**

54 Broad Street, Ludlow SY8 1GP

Tel: 01584 872 187

Fax: 01584 876 345

Email: [philip.dunne.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:philip.dunne.mp@parliament.uk)

## SHROPSHIRE UNITARY COUNCILLOR FOR THE CORVEDALE

**Cllr. Cecilia Motley  
Councillor, Corvedale Division**

Cabinet Member for Health and Communities;  
Executive member, Rural Services Network;

Shropshire Council 01588 672 192



## SUPPORT & RESOURCES

There is a wealth of information and resources available on the Shropshire Council website: [www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)

From information about household recycling, planning applications, and highways to help with Cost-of-Living and Benefits. Help and information can also be obtained by phone: **0345 678 9000**.

*More useful contacts can be found on page 31*

# LIST OF DISTRIBUTORS & AREAS

NAME	ADDRESS	AREA SERVED
Mrs M Buckingham	The Old Rectory, Abdon	Abdon
Mrs C Evans	Aston Munslow	Aston Munslow
Ms N Fuller	Mill House, Bache Mill	Bache Mill
Mr P Turner	16 Beambridge, Munslow	Beambridge/Millichope
Mr D Hedgley / Mrs M Holt	Boulton	Boulton, Wynett's Bank
Mrs A Benbow	Thonglands Farm, Stanton Long	Broadstone, Rowe Lane, Hungerford
Mr I Hankinson	Broncroft, Broncroft	Broncroft, Baucott, Balaam's Heath, Tugford
Mrs N Brentnall	Holdgate Pool Farm, Brookhampton	Brookhampton
Mr M Jones	Yew Tree Cottage, Corfton Bache	Corfton/Corfton Bache
Mrs C Crowther	Corfton Lodge	Corfton, Pedlar's Rest
Mrs V Hardwick	Sparchford Cottage, Sparchford	Culmington 1
Mrs C Byng	The Meadow, Culmington	Culmington 2
Mrs S Morgan	1, The Moors, Diddlebury	Diddlebury 1
Mr N Kennedy	The Old Byre, Diddlebury	Diddlebury 2
Ms S Walters	Roseford, Bache Mill	Middlehope
Mrs A Donnelly	The Ashlings, Munslow	Munslow
Ms S Lewis	New House Farm, Peaton	Peaton, Peaton Strand
Ms C Morgan	Ludlow	Sutton
Mrs P Baynham	Garage Cottage, Westhope	Westhope

# COPY FOR JULY 2024 MAGAZINE

To make sure your contribution is included in the **JULY 2024** magazine, please send by email to [editor@corvedalenews.co.uk](mailto:editor@corvedalenews.co.uk) by **MONDAY 17TH JUNE** at the latest.

**ADVERTISEMENTS** If you would like to advertise in the Corvedale News or amend an existing advertisement, please contact our Advertising Manager by **MONDAY 17TH JUNE** at the latest for inclusion in the next issue: [advertising@corvedalenews.co.uk](mailto:advertising@corvedalenews.co.uk). All adverts must be in electronic format and sent in either jpg or Word format.

**PICTURES** We are always very pleased to receive high quality pictures of scenes or events around the Corvedale to add to our library for use on the front cover. Email to [photos@corvedalenews.co.uk](mailto:photos@corvedalenews.co.uk).

**EDITOR'S NOTE** If anyone knows of other events taking place within their immediate area in the next few months, could they please let the Editor know so these may be included in the Dates for Your Diary.

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## OUR DOMESTICS

**DON'T FORGET** If you are aware of anyone who does not receive the Corvedale News in your area but would like to, please have a word with your distributor.

**DISCLAIMER** Views expressed in this paper are those of the relevant authors and not necessarily those of the Corvedale News team. We reserve the right to edit or omit any material submitted for publication. No liability is accepted for loss or damage arising from any omission of copy or advertising, and the appearance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement or recommendation. The Corvedale News is published and distributed entirely by volunteers, with production costs defrayed by advertising and subscriptions.

**DESIGN & PRINTING** Our magazine is designed, set and printed by Craven Design and Print. [info@cravendesignandprint.co.uk](mailto:info@cravendesignandprint.co.uk) Unit 1, Craven Arms Business Park, Craven Arms, SY7 8NR. Tel: 01588 673972

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## SUBSCRIPTIONS 2024

We have agreed to hold subscription prices at the current rates for 2024. The paper subscription will remain at £8.00 per annum and the electronic subscription £5.00.

You can make your payment in three ways:-

### 1. Online:

Account Name: Corvedale News (Business Account)  
Sort Code: 30-90-49  
Account Number: 54132260  
Reference: Please use your surname and your location e.g. SMITH, PEATON

### 3. By post:

Make your cheque out to: THE CORVEDALE NEWS  
Print your name and address on the back of the cheque and post to:  
T Bennett, Corvedale News Treasurer  
Lower Middle Barns  
Corfton, Craven Arms  
SY7 9LB

### 2. Your Corvedale News distributor:

Hand your cash or cheque over to your distributor.

## OVERDUE SUBSCRIPTIONS 2023

If you have not yet paid your subscription for 2023, please do so IMMEDIATELY, using one of the methods above. If you are not sure whether you have already paid or not, please contact Colin Pitcher by email at [colin.pitcher@hotmail.com](mailto:colin.pitcher@hotmail.com).

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Corvedale News Team

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## CHURCH CONTACTS

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Rev'd John S Beesley  
St Michael's Rectory  
Munslow  
SY7 9EU

Tel: (01584) 841488

[revjbeesley@gmail.com](mailto:revjbeesley@gmail.com)

### CATHOLIC CHURCH

Canon Christopher Walsh  
St Peter's RC Church  
Henley Road, Ludlow  
SY8 1QZ

Tel: (01584) 872906

[st.peters.ludlow@talktalk.net](mailto:st.peters.ludlow@talktalk.net)

### METHODIST CHAPEL

Craven Arms: for service times and ministers, please contact the Shropshire and Marches Circuit Office

Tel: (01743) 874923

[circuitoffice2803@gmail.com](mailto:circuitoffice2803@gmail.com)

# LOCAL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

 *Mini Moos*   
*Baby and toddler group*

Every Monday  
 10-12 term time  
 £2.50 per family

Baby area  
 Toddler area  
 Ride ons  
 Craft activities  
 Song time  
 And lots more

 Diddlebury Village Hall 

*Find us on Facebook  
 Mini Moos baby and toddler group*

  
**Weekly Whist Drives**



Every Monday  
 All ages and abilities welcome

Doors open 7pm  
 Start 7:15pm

£3 to include half time refreshments

Westhope Village Hall  
 SY7 9JL



Enjoy singing?   
**Corvedale Choir**  
 is looking for new members who love to sing

**WHO?** We are a mixed voice choir based in the Corvedale who began singing together in 2010. Our Musical Director is Ros Crouch, well known for her leadership of several choirs in the area

**WHAT?** We sing an eclectic mix of harmony songs with a supportive, friendly and fun group of local people

**WHERE?** Diddlebury Village Hall in the area

**WHY?** Because we love singing with other people and because singing is good for physical and mental health

**WHEN?** Monday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.30pm during term time.  
 We have 2 concerts a year: a charity fundraiser in the summer and a carol concert at Christmas

**Interested?** We would love to hear from you. There are no auditions, all songs are taught - an ability to follow music and a desire to sing is all that's required

**Not sure if it's for you?** You're welcome to come along and join us for a taster evening for free any Monday evening

**HOW?** If you would like further information please contact:  
 Avril Lines [avril.fossilshropshire@gmail.com](mailto:avril.fossilshropshire@gmail.com) or 01584 861 339

## CORVEDALE BOOK GROUP

Corvedale Book Group welcomes new members! It costs less than £5 a month to cover room hire fees and Shropshire Library loan fees.

For the first six months of the year, we will be choosing books selected by group members. Then we will be discussing books selected from the annual library list.

Please contact [cathburley@hotmail.com](mailto:cathburley@hotmail.com) if you would like to join us.

**Second Thursday of the month  
 7.30pm - 9pm at Diddlebury Village Hall.**

**Next Meeting: Thursday 13th June**



## CORVEDALE ARTISTS

meet every Tuesday  
 from 10.00 am until 1.00pm in  
**Beambridge Village Hall**

Portrait Model and Still Life provided at each session with tuition, or bring your own artwork

**£8.00 per session**

A warm welcome awaits new members of all abilities so why not come along?

For further information  
 telephone 01299 832608



## Corvedale Folk Club

**at The Seven Stars,  
 Broadstone  
 on Monday 24th June  
 at 7.30pm**

All are welcome to perform or listen to and enjoy acoustic music, recitations and story-telling.

Meetings will be the 4th Monday of each month

For further information contact Ian on 01584 841 331 or email [ianfotheringham@btinternet.com](mailto:ianfotheringham@btinternet.com)

## RSPB Walks

More info can be found on the RSPB local group website.

**WALKS  
 June 8th  
 Wenlock Edge – 10.30am**



## CORVEDALE FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE GROUP

Working parties are usually on the 4th Wednesday of the month and the following Friday and Sunday, beginning at 9.30am.

Please ring Jenny Vine on 01584 841596 to confirm work location.

If any local walkers in the Corvedale notice any stiles or steps in poor condition, please report back to Jenny.

The current planned dates are:  
**June: Wed 26th, Fri 28th, Sun 30th**



## ORGANISING AN EVENT OR RUN A LOCAL CLUB?

Get the word out with the Corvedale News. Contact the editor to include your poster in the next edition: [editor@corvedalenews.co.uk](mailto:editor@corvedalenews.co.uk)

# WHAT'S ON IN THE DALE



## Afternoon Tea

**CLOTTED CREAM TEA**

All Welcome

**SUNDAY 30th JUNE**  
2.00-5.00pm  
Stanton Lacy Village Hall  
Haytons Bent  
SY8 2AT

*National Cream Tea Day  
Clotted Cream Tea  
Home Made Cakes  
Light Refreshments*

DVH presents

## PIZZA NIGHT

**BAR STEFANO** serving Draft Ludlow Gold, Italian wines, beers and spirits

**EAT IN OUR LOVELY HALL** with your friends & neighbours

**ENJOY** much acclaimed *wood fired pizzas* from The




## Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June

Bar opens **17:30**  
Pizza served **17:30 - 21:00**

## Culmington and District Flower and Produce Show

in Culmington Village Hall  
SY8 2DA

**Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Aug**




Fruit & veg	Flowers & plants
Cookery & drink	Floral art
Arts & crafts	Children's classes
Eggs & herbs	Family class

\*\*\*\*\*

Superb prizes in our sponsors' raffle!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Refreshments**

Schedules/entry forms available from  
Culmington Village Hall, All Saints Church, Cyril Bason,  
Judy McNally 01584 861403,  
and Janet Stuart 01584 861289

## Wild about Westhope Summer Family Event

**Sunday June 23rd**  
10.30am — 1.00 pm

The event is free to all





- Enchanted Fairy Trail
- Willow Workshop
- Wildflower Discovery
- Charcoal Making
- Woodland Camp Café

**Parking at Westhope College SY7 9JL.**

All donations will be used to buy tools for nature conservation  
For further information email: [Wildaboutwesthope@gmail.com](mailto:Wildaboutwesthope@gmail.com)

# Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir in concert

FEATURING SOLOIST  
BASS-BARITONE PIRAN LEGG

## SHREWSBURY ABBEY

SATURDAY 15TH JUNE 2024

DOORS: 6:45PM

ON STAGE: 7.30PM

PARKING: ABBEY FOREGATE CAR PARK, SY2 6BS

TICKETS £12 PER PERSON

£14 ON THE NIGHT

SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

The concert is being held in aid of both Macmillan Cancer Support in Shropshire and the Shrewsbury Parish.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please email [shrewsburymacmillanfundraising@gmail.com](mailto:shrewsburymacmillanfundraising@gmail.com).

SCAN QR CODE FOR TICKETS:

In aid of

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**



Organised in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

# Blue Hills Choir Summer Concert

Saturday 6th July 2024, 3pm

St Mary the Virgin Church  
Bromfield SY8 2GP

Following on from last year's very successful concerts, come and hear the Blue Hills Choir provide another entertaining programme of classical choral pieces.

Tickets are £10 per head to include a glass of wine or non-alcoholic beverage and snacks served after the concert.

Free entry to children under 16.

All monies raised are in aid of  
St Mary the Virgin Church.

Tickets available at the door or from  
[gordon\\_grant1951@hotmail.com](mailto:gordon_grant1951@hotmail.com)



## Diddlebury Village Hall

# Miriam Backhouse/Erasmus in concert

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June

7.00pm Doors & bar open  
7.30pm Performance

Adults £12.50

U-16s (accompanied by adult) £6.00

Tickets from [WeGotTickets.com](http://WeGotTickets.com) or contact Ian  
Fotheringham 01584 841 331  
e-mail: [ianfotheringham@btinternet.com](mailto:ianfotheringham@btinternet.com)

Further details on DVH Facebook page or look up  
Miriam on Facebook or her official YouTube site or  
contact Ian

Free! In Harmony Free!  
**Corvedale Choir Concert**

Monday 8th July  
Diddlebury Parish Church  
7pm for a 7.30pm start

*The Corvedale Choir meet every Monday night in term-time to share their joy of finding the harmony in the music and with each other.*

*This annual concert celebrates the fun they have had and the progress they have made under the tutelage of Ros Crouch their ever so patient leader.*

*An evening of friendship, harmony and a glass that cheers; escape with us from the current woes and discord.*

**It's a free entry but we welcome donations towards the food & drinks. Funds raised for Dementia UK & Corvedale Parishes Group.**

**A Midsummer Fest**

**In aid of Culmington All Saints Church Tower Appeal**

When:  
**Friday 21 June 2024**

Time:  
**6.00 – 10.00pm**

Where:  
**Sparchford Cottage, SY8 2DE**

**BBQ • BAR • MUSIC • GAMES**

**Open Garden. Donations Welcome.**  
**Further Information: 01584 861658**

**THE TALLY HO INN**  
**BOULDON**



**'SHROPSHIRE PUB OF THE YEAR**  
**2024'**

**FOOD TIMES**  
WED 6-8PM  
THUR 12-2, 6-8PM  
FRI & SAT 12-2, 6-8:30PM  
SUNDAY 12-4PM  
[WWW.THETALLYHO.CO.UK](http://WWW.THETALLYHO.CO.UK)  
01584 841830



# DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

www.diddleburyvillagehall.org What's App/call - 07396 730342 Facebook: @diddleburyvillagehall.org


  
 DVH is excited to present
   

## PIZZA NIGHT

  
 Brought to you by the famous and renowned
   

 As seen at Ludlow Brewery and the Spring Fair!
   
 Come and eat the yummiest pizzas in the County with friends and neighbours in our lovely Village Hall on
   

### Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June

  
**Bar Stefano**
  
 Serving draft Ludlow Gold. Italian wines, beers & spirits from **17:30**
  

### The Pizza Girls

  
 Serving pizzas from **17:30 – 21:00**
  



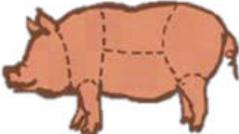
# QUIZ NIGHT

  
 at DVH
   

## Wednesday July 3<sup>rd</sup>

  
 Bar Opens: 19:00  
 Quiz Starts: 19:30
   
**Booking essential**
  
 Text/WhatsApp: 07396 730342  
 Email: [diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:diddleburyvillagehall@gmail.com)
  


## HARVEST HOG ROAST

### Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October

### SAVE THE DATE

	<p><b>The Corvedale Book Club</b> Meet to discuss their latest book choice. Contact <a href="mailto:cathburley@hotmail.com">cathburley@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>19:00 Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June</b></p>
<p><b>Street Food Night</b></p>	<p>The famous and renowned <b>PIZZA GIRLS</b> will be serving delicious wood-fired pizzas from their special pink oven! Bar Stefano will be serving beers &amp; wines - <i>SO</i> Come along &amp; eat with your friends &amp; neighbours in our lovely Hall</p>	<p><b>17:30 - 21:00 Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b></p>
<p><b>FOLK@DVH</b></p>	<p><b>FOLK@DVH</b> - Miriam Backhouse / Erasmus - often compared to Joan Baez! Tickets from WeGotTickets.com</p>	<p><b>19:00 Friday 28th June</b></p>
	<p><b>Mini Moos Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b> £2.50 per Family See Facebook for more information:</p>	<p><b>Mondays 10.00 - 12.00 Term time</b></p>
	<p><b>The Corvedale Choir.</b> Contact Ros Crouch: <a href="mailto:ros.crouch@gmail.com">ros.crouch@gmail.com</a> for more information.</p>	<p><b>Mondays 19.30 -21.30</b></p>
	<p><b>The Blue Hills Choir</b> Contact Ros Crouch: <a href="mailto:ros.crouch@gmail.com">ros.crouch@gmail.com</a> for more information.</p>	<p><b>Tuesdays 10.00 - 12.00</b></p>
	<p><b>Zumba</b> Contact Cat: <a href="mailto:zumbawithcat@outlook.com">zumbawithcat@outlook.com</a> /07817 448832</p>	<p><b>Tuesdays 18.00</b></p>
	<p><b>Tai Chi</b> Contact Enid Gill: 07877 250275 <a href="mailto:hello@goldenthreadscic.com">hello@goldenthreadscic.com</a></p>	<p><b>Thursdays 10.00 - 11.00</b></p>
	<p><b>Pilates with Tina</b> Bookings only via <a href="mailto:pilateswithtina@outlook.com">pilateswithtina@outlook.com</a></p>	<p><b>Thursdays 18:00 – 19:00</b></p>
	<p><b>Physiotherapist-led Pilates.</b> Contact Beverley Chumber: <a href="mailto:beverleychumber@sky.com">beverleychumber@sky.com</a> 07967 814412</p>	<p><b>Fridays 9.15 - 10.15</b></p>

# VILLAGE HALLS CULMINGTON

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS - JUNE

### Coffee Morning

Monday 3rd and every following Monday, 10am - 11.30am  
Cup of coffee or tea and biscuits for £1 with free refills. Join us for a natter. Everyone welcome.

### Bridge Club

Monday 3rd and every following Monday, 12.30pm - 5pm  
Contact Peter Whitehead [pst.whitehead@gmail.com](mailto:pst.whitehead@gmail.com)

### Beacon Day

Thursday 6th June

80th Anniversary of D-Day. Beacon will be lit at 9:15pm.  
Nibbles provided.

### Lunch Club

Thursday 20th June, 12:30pm for 1pm

A 2-course meal for £10 plus raffle and bar.

Please book in advance so we know numbers.

Contact Gwyn Edwards on 07891 904 501 or 01584 861 666  
or Anne Rowlands on 01584 861 787.

### Can-Do-Crafts - Decorative Beaded Lampshade

Saturday 22nd, 10am -12.30pm

£25 to include all materials and refreshments. Contact  
Rosemary Jones on 01584 861 823 or 07837 609 229.

### Pub Night

Friday 28th June

Mexican night postponed until autumn/winter.

## PLANNING AHEAD

### Fish Heads

Friday 5th July

Fish and chips at the village hall.

### Lunch Club

Thursday 18th July, 12:30pm for 1pm

A 2-course meal for £10 plus raffle and bar.

Please book in advance so we know numbers.

Contact Gwyn Edwards on 07891 904 501 or 01584 861 666  
or Anne Rowlands on 01584 861 787.

### Culmington & District Flower & Produce Show

Sunday 18th August

Schedules available from Culmington Village Hall, All Saints Church and Cyril Bason in Craven Arms. Contact Janet Stuart 01584 861 298 or Judy McNally on 01584 861 403.

### Bluebird Belles

Saturday 28th September

Back by popular demand!

Contact Jo Mear on 07872 109 936 or 01584 861 486.

### Tractor Run

Sunday 13th October

Details to follow.

### Jordan Brown

Saturday 26th October

Singer and acoustic guitarist, and dancing replaces Friday social night. Contact Jo Mear on 07872 109 936 or 01584 861 486.

# ABDON

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS - JUNE

### Un-Finished Objects (UFO) Craft Group

8th June, 10.30am - 12.30pm.

Bring your 'crafty projects' - learn from each other and enjoy the chat as you, crochet, knit, sew, patchwork or do anything crafty! And of course, coffee and cake too!

### Coffee Morning

29th June, 10.30am - 12.30pm.

On the last Saturday of each month.

Everyone is welcome to our warm and friendly get togethers - lively chat, coffee and, of course, cake!

### Abdon Village Hall Bookings

Contact Margaret Buckingham: 01746 712 296

or [abdon.villagehall@gmail.com](mailto:abdon.villagehall@gmail.com) Or visit our website for the booking form and details: [www.abdonandheathparish.org.uk](http://www.abdonandheathparish.org.uk)

# STANTON LACY

## WHAT'S ON IN JUNE

### Pub Night, every Wednesday 8pm - Late

### Coffee Mornings

Wednesday 5th & 19th June, 10am-12pm

Join us for Tea, Coffee & Delicious Cake

### Monthly Friday Pub Night

We will be kicking off our Summer Friday Pub Night on the **14th June**. Bar will be open from 6pm. Joining us this month will be 'Fish Heads' Serving delicious fish and chips!

### Community Market

We hold our community market on the last Saturday of every month. See what our wonderful small local businesses have to offer. Also serving Tea, Coffee & Cakes. 10am-12pm

### Afternoon Tea – Sunday 30th June

National cream tea day, Clotted Cream Tea, Homemade Cakes & Light Refreshments. No Booking required 2pm-5pm

### For more information.

Email: [slvh.info@gmail.com](mailto:slvh.info@gmail.com) Post Code: SY8 2AT  
or Facebook: Stanton Lacy Village Hall Events

# WESTHOPE

Our regular programme of events continues with every

**2nd Friday** of the month social skittles evening, everyone welcome. Whist Drives **every Monday** and Yoga on

**Thursdays** 9.45am - 10.45am

The next Clover Club meeting is on **6th June**.

Plans are well underway for our Centenary party on **9th June** from 2pm. This is a ticket only event.

The next prize/cash bingo is on **15th June**, 7pm for 7.30pm start.

## FUTURE EVENTS

- The Community Lunch, 4th July.
- Race Night with Craven Arms Ladies, 21st August
- Jumble Sale, 7th September
- Harvest Supper, 19th October
- Concert with Newtown Male Voice Choir, 23rd November

The hall is available to hire with a licensed bar and catering if required. All enquiries Betty 07860 447 397 or Moira 01584 861 663.

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Every Mon	<b>Corvedale Choir</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
Every Mon	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Culmington Village Hall	10am - 11.30am
Every Mon	<b>Bridge Club</b>	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm - 5pm
Every Mon	<b>Whist Drive</b>	Westhope Village Hall	7.15pm
Every Mon	<b>Mini Moos - Baby &amp; Toddler Group</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	<b>Blue Hills Choir</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Tue	<b>Corvedale Artists</b>	Beambridge Club Room	10am
Every Tue	<b>Zumba</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Wed	<b>Yoga</b>	Westhope Village Hall	9.45am
Every Wed	<b>Pub Night</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	8pm
Every Thu	<b>Tai Chi</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	10am
Every Thu	<b>Pilates Beginners/Intermediate Class</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	6pm
Every Fri	<b>Physiotherapist-led Pilates</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	9.15am

## JUNE 2024

4th	Tue	<b>Culmington Parish Council Meeting</b>	Culmington Village Hall	7.30pm
5th	Wed	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	10am
6th	Thu	<b>Clover Club</b>	The Discovery Centre	2.30pm
6th	Thu	<b>Beacon Day</b>	Culmington Village Hall	TBA
8th	Sat	<b>RSPB Walk</b>	Wenlock Edge	10.30am
8th	Sat	<b>Un-finished Objects Craft Morning</b>	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
8th	Sat	<b>Corvedale Garden Group</b>	Eyton Hall	TBA
9th	Sun	<b>Centenary Party</b>	Westhope Village Hall	2pm
12th	Wed	<b>Diddlebury &amp; Westhope WI</b>	Culmington Village Hall	7.30pm
13th	Thu	<b>Book Club</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7.30pm
13th	Thu	<b>Hayton &amp; District WI</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	7.30pm
14th	Fri	<b>Pub Night with The Fish Heads</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	6pm
15th	Sat	<b>Prize bingo</b>	Westhope Village Hall	7pm
15th	Sat	<b>Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir</b>	Shrewsbury Abbey	7.30pm
17th	Mon	<b>Corvedale News Copy Deadline</b>	-	-
19th	Wed	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	10am
20th	Thu	<b>Lunch Club</b>	Culmington Village Hall	12.30pm
21st	Fri	<b>Pizza Night</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	5.30pm
21st	Fri	<b>Midsummer Fest</b>	Sparchford Farm	6pm
22nd	Sat	<b>Can-Do-Crafts - Beaded Lampshade</b>	Culmington Village Hall	10am
23rd	Sun	<b>Wild About Westhope - Summer Family Event</b>	Westhope College	10.30am
24th	Mon	<b>Folk Club</b>	Seven Stars, Broadstone	7.30pm
26th	Wed	<b>Footpath Maintenance Group</b>	TBA	9.30am
26th	Wed	<b>Diddlebury Parish Council Meeting</b>	Westhope Village Hall	7.15pm
28th	Fri	<b>Footpath Maintenance Group</b>	TBA	9.30am
28th	Fri	<b>Pub Night</b>	Culmington Village Hall	TBA
28th	Fri	<b>Folk Night - Miriam Backhouse / Erasmus</b>	Diddlebury Village Hall	7pm
29th	Sat	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	Abdon Village Hall	10.30am
29th	Sat	<b>Community Market</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	10am
30th	Sun	<b>Footpath Maintenance Group</b>	TBA	9.30am
30th	Sun	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>	Stanton Lacy Village Hall	2pm

## VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES & CLASSES:

Abdon - Page 9, Culmington - Page 9, Diddlebury - Page 8, Stanton Lacy - Page 9, Westhope - Page 9  
The deadline for all submissions to the News is Monday 17th June

# CHURCH NEWS

## LETTER FROM THE RECTORY

As we come to June, the church year enters what is known as 'Ordinary Time'. This is the half of the year (roughly) which is not a special season such as Advent, Christmas, Lent or Easter. We will count 'Sundays after Trinity' until we come to the end of October, after which we'll start counting down towards Advent and the start of the new church year. During this time our readings focus on the period of roughly three years which Jesus spent travelling around the countryside, teaching about God and healing people who were in need of his help.

As we come to the summer we also come to that time of year when the number of events in the churches increases – as I write this the plant sale is taking place at Diddlebury. Plans are in place for fêtes, concerts, talks and more. All of these events help to raise the funds required to keep the churches open here in the Corvedale. There are costs associated with keeping the buildings open – utility bills, insurance and so on, not to mention the cost of repairs. We are currently focussing our thoughts on Culmington where c£150,000 - £200,000 will be needed to repair the tower, and on Munslow, where almost £50,000 is needed to rewire the church. If you've been to Abdon recently you may have noticed that one of the beams of the screen has almost completely rotted away. Windows at Holdgate are in need of repair too. The list goes on!

Many people, both those who attend church services and those who don't, tell me about the peace and the beauty they find in our churches. They are here for everyone in our communities, not just on Sundays but also at those times in life when we need a place to gather – baptisms, weddings or funerals. Anyone who lives in a parish has the right to have their funeral in the church and to be buried in the churchyard. These buildings have stood in our communities for hundreds of years and are open for everyone, every day. Do join us over the summer at services or at the many events we are holding to help to make sure that the churches will be here, for us all, for many years to come.

Rev'd John Beesley

## MUNSLOW CHURCH

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Spring Flower Festival at Munslow Church on Saturday 20th April. The church looked lovely and the afternoon raised £465 towards the costs of rewiring the church.

Rev'd John Beesley

## DIDDLEBURY CHURCH

Many thanks to everyone who supported the Diddlebury Church plant and cake sale. The magnificent sum of £1,240 was raised for church funds, which is a new record. Thanks to everyone who helped out in various ways and those who supported the event.

The next fundraising event will be the Summer Fête on **Saturday 6th July** in Diddlebury Village Hall. More information to follow in next month's magazine.

Liz Jones

# FLOWERS & BRASSES

## JUNE 2024

2nd	Wendy Ross	16th	Johanna Woodhouse
9th	Wendy Ross	23rd	Johanna Woodhouse

# FROM THE REGISTERS

## BAPTISM

5th May Sebastian Stanley John Bithell Diddlebury

## WEDDING

11th May Kate Wrigley and James Gladstone Diddlebury

## FUNERAL

26th April Sheila Austin Munslow

10th May Elwyn Hughes Munslow

## BURIAL OF ASHES

30th April Sheila Austin Munslow

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

19th May Pauline Steed Diddlebury

# CORVEDALE FESTIVAL LAUNCH

Now all the excitement has died down, the Corvedale Festival team would like to thank the many people who helped make this year's festival launch such a success. To the people who distributed publicity, moved chairs and tables, baked delicious cakes, ran the bar, washed up, manned the door, sold and folded raffle tickets and came to listen, a huge thank you – we couldn't do it without you!

Tickets for the main festival (**20th-28th September**), are now on sale via TicketSource or through the festival office on 07745 825 700 or [corvedalefestival@gmail.com](mailto:corvedalefestival@gmail.com). Do consider whether the festival pass may be a worthwhile purchase for you. These give admission to all the festival events including the Opera Gala and the Craft Workshop, total potential value £209! Depending on which events you choose, you will be saving after five or six events. Festival passes, priced at £100, are available until 31st July and there are only twenty remaining. To help make these accessible for all we are offering four interest-free instalments of £25,

payable June to September inclusive. Do get in touch soon if you would like to take advantage of this.

Ruth Henley



# CORVEDALE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



## 'THREE IN A ROW'

Corvedale School was inspected by Ofsted on 16th and 17th of April and, for the third time running, we achieved a 'GOOD' grade in all the inspected areas. These are: Quality of Education, Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development, Leadership and Management and Early Years Provision. This is testament to the hard work of all involved and especially the leadership of Jonathan Brough, the Headteacher. Jonathan is retiring this summer but will leave behind for the new Headteacher, Mr Davda, a firm foundation upon which to build. Big thanks also to the twenty-nine families who filled in the 'Ofsted Parent View' questionnaire which overall gave positive feedback to the inspectors.

The inspection itself was very thorough, spread over two days, with two inspectors involved. Staff, children, parents and governors were all quizzed about the school and their work. From this a picture was built up of the school which resulted in some really good feedback from the inspectors.

Below is a sample of their comments:

*'This is a calm and happy school, that pupils are proud of. Pupils say that the school is 'like a family.' A typical parental comment was, 'This is a lovely school with a family atmosphere and a strong sense of happiness and well-being'*

*'Pupils know that they can share any worries with trusted adults and that they will help to keep them safe. Pupils are taught to keep safe online and in the local community. Pupils are proud to be part of their house groups.'*

*'The school has high expectations of pupils. The curriculum is ambitious and has been carefully considered to take account of mixed-age classes.'*

*'Children in early years settle quickly. They are polite, well-mannered and follow routines. They are taught to be independent and resilient learners.'*

*'Behaviour in school is calm. Pupils know the school rules of 'Be ready, be respectful and be safe.' Most pupils behave well and have positive attitudes to learning.'*

*'There is an extensive extra-curricular programme in place. There is a wide variety of opportunities for pupils to develop their skills and talents.'*

*'Governors understand their roles. They ensure they challenge school leaders to maintain an accurate and up-to-date view of the school.'*

As with any Ofsted Report there are areas outlined for us to work on including tweaking some safeguarding administration, ensuring that resources for SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabled) pupils are in place and adapted to meet the children's needs and, finally, monitoring the impact of recent changes to the curriculum. These will form the basis for future development actions. A full copy of the report will be available on the school's website via the Ofsted link in the Key Information section - useful links.

It has been my privilege to work with Jonathan over the last nine years and to watch him, along with his team, grow the school into the success it is today. Whilst growing our overall numbers remains a priority, our future looks better with the nursery numbers increasing all the time. So, come on: spread the word about your successful local Corvedale School and help it grow!

David Hedgley, Chair of Governors

## CORVEDALE FESTIVAL LAUNCH REVIEW

Diddlebury village hall on a Saturday night...and a positive delight for classical music fans.

The launch of the Corvedale Festival, which runs from the **20th to the 28th of September**.

This is the third year of the festival which lifts your soul as summer slips away and brings music of the highest calibre to south Shropshire and at prices which won't break the bank! And the launch was also a soul-lifting event as we head towards summer.

Artists-in-residence the Jarualda Quartet gave us a taste of what is to come with three pieces: *String Quartet Op.76 No 2 'Fifths'* by Haydn, *Quartet No.6 Op 18 No.6* by Beethoven and *Quartet in F Major Op.96 (American)* by Dvořák.

I have nowhere near the knowledge to properly comment on the skill of these musicians but suffice to say, I was taken on a rich journey through these works by Alex Postlethwaite and

David Joyce on violin, Jane Park on viola and Ruth Henley on cello.

Take a look at the festival programme and how to book tickets at [www.corvedalefestival.org](http://www.corvedalefestival.org)

See you there, I hope. International quality music in the depths of the Corvedale. No travelling far afield and a chance to support classical music and musicians.

Sharon Walters



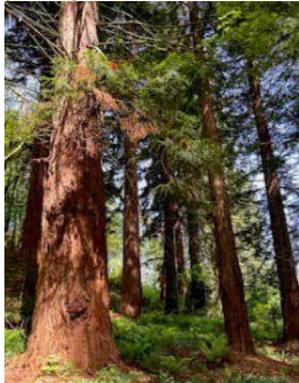
# CORVEDALE GARDEN GROUP

## THE HURST AT CLUNTON

Over thirty members enjoyed brilliant sunshine and a warm welcome from Jo Salmon and her colleagues at The Hurst at Clunton. The property, situated in the Clun valley, was the home of the Morris family for five centuries. In its heyday the estate ran to 16,000 acres. The family of landowners were also local magistrates and barristers. The house was remodelled in 1816. The then owner added many beautiful trees and shrubs including beautiful Coast Redwoods, a handkerchief tree, rhododendrons, and azaleas which we were lucky enough to see in bloom. At that point, the sawmill was actively used, and the owner trained other people to care for the acres of trees he had planted. Slowly the estate was sold off. When the playwright, John Osborne, bought it in the latter years of his life there was far less land attached. He lived there happily with his fifth wife, Helen, for almost ten years. (Their graves can now be seen in Clun churchyard.)

Today The Hurst is one of three residential houses under the Arvon charitable company - the others are in Totleigh Barton in Devon and Lumb Bank in Yorkshire. They offer a safe haven, mentoring and tutoring creative writing courses for people wishing to find a peaceful retreat to foster their writing skills [www.arvon.org](http://www.arvon.org).

We started our tour, leaving the car park to walk up to the barn and hear about the history of the house and its current use. The grounds are now only twenty-four acres. We followed Jo up to the main house and through the woodland to the right, bright with blue camassias, and bluebells; and red, yellow, pink, white and orange rhododendrons, and azaleas, underplanted with ferns and wildflowers. From there we circled up behind the house to the formal garden and a sloping, partially restored walled garden which helps to produce food for the residents who attend courses there. The views across the valley were stunning. The gardens were alive with birdsong. We basked in the warm sunshine, finally wandering back to the barn for teas, coffees, and many sorts of delicious cake. Chairs were provided for us to sit outside the barn and talk or there were benches overlooking the lake. There was a small landing stage for a blue boat and a host of happy dragonflies. Afterwards we walked up the track to see the magnificent Coast Redwoods and follow the stream, bordered by wild garlic, which fed the lake. Heading back to the car park, there was an opportunity to walk through the orchard to see the old dovecote and surprise the resident barn own from its slumbers. If you missed this visit The Hurst is also open under the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust.



Our next visit will be on **Saturday 8th June** when Katherine Moynes will welcome us to Eyton Hall at Eyton-on-the-Weald-Moors, TF6 6ET. The garden is about a 40-minute drive from Aston Munslow. Admission is £12 per person and includes refreshments. There is a Victorian walled garden which I hope will be bright with roses and peonies. There are long mixed borders, a lake, woodland, and extensive parkland. For those of you on Facebook, who want to have a sneak preview of the colour and charm this garden offers, the gardener has a blog:

*The Gardens at Eyton Hall.* If you are not a regular member and would like to visit this garden please let me know at least a week ahead.

Cath Burley, [cathburley@hotmail.com](mailto:cathburley@hotmail.com)

## DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

Our first Street Food Night of the year - Fishy Friday, was an enormous success with delicious fish and chips cooked for us by the Fabulous Fish Heads in their 'rock and roll' truck.

In the packed hall with an 'all things fishing' slide show, and sea shanties playing, the stage was set, and with so many spending time with their friends and neighbours until long into the evening, it made for a real community spirit and a wonderful atmosphere.

It was especially good to see so many children and young people turn out to enjoy themselves too and we look forward to seeing them again at our future events.

The first time of serving draft Ludlow Gold at Bar Stefano proved to be a huge hit which will become a regular offering at all our larger events. And it's by your staying and supporting Bar Stefano that we are able to raise much needed funds for our hall, so thank you to all who supported us.

Our next Street Food event is Pizza Night on **21st June**. This time we will have the renowned Pizza Girls here, who, not only make acclaimed pizza but also have five years' experience of managing and catering to large numbers of people!

Our May quiz was a sell-out event and the atmosphere in the hall was absolutely buzzing with a room full of people laughing and having fun. The 'Not a Pub Quiz but Quiz about pubs' table round causing a great deal of laughter.

Scoring was remarkably close throughout the evening, but it was the Brough Diamonds that took the top prize by a single point from the Odds and Sods. Here they are celebrating their win and delighting in their much-coveted prizes.

It was a super evening out enjoyed by all and thanks to everyone's generosity it also helped raise a good amount for our village hall.

Our next quiz is on **Wednesday 3rd July**, and we already have 15 of the maximum 17 tables booked. What's App us on 07396 730 342 to book your place.

Kim Simm



# WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

## HAYTON & DISTRICT WI

We were very pleased to welcome approximately thirty attendees to hear our published speaker Natalie Cumming's talk titled *The Fiddle* at our meeting in May which was opened up to members and guests of the North Ludlow WI group of branches as well as our own interested family members. Natalie's presentation commenced with a video of an episode of the very popular BBC programme, *The Repair Shop*, which set the scene for her talk, a true story tracing this very precious violin across landscapes devastated by war and terror to safety and restoration in 21st century Britain. Briefly, its journey commenced in the hands of Natalie's grandparents and their family who had to flee their home in St Petersburg, Russia, to escape the terror of the Bolsheviks, and later through concentration camps during World War II with Natalie's aunt, before returning to the UK and to be eventually inherited by Natalie. Her presentation was very enlightening, touching on the very personal atrocities experienced by members of her own family and the wider Jewish communities in Russia and later throughout Europe during the Holocaust. Natalie's book, *The Fiddle*, was written to expand on her family's extraordinary story, lest the world should ever forget those world events, against which the journey of *The Fiddle* is told.

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 13th June** at 7:30pm when our speaker Graham Short, an engraver, will give his talk entitled *Hands of Genius*. We wait with interest to hear what he has to tell us and very much look forward to seeing members and guests as well as welcoming any prospective members to the meeting at Stanton Lacy Village Hall, located in Hayton's Bent, SY7 2AT.

For further information about the WI in general and membership, please feel free to get in touch with our Club President, Phyllis Steventon on 01584 823 436, or our Secretary at [hayton.district.wi@gmail.com](mailto:hayton.district.wi@gmail.com).

Louise Gough



## DIDDLEBURY & WESTHOPE WI

The May meeting was a joint one held with Munslow WI at Culmington Village Hall. We all enjoyed having a full hall and extra members to catch up with from our neighbouring WI. After the usual notices and brief discussions on the craft group meeting and proposed visit to local gardens we welcomed our speaker for the evening, Lin Brown - assisted by Cal, new to his role - for her all-encompassing stories of researching her family tree - *Adventures up the Family Tree*.

An entertaining evening of story and play unfolded and amazed us. Lin had researched her family over the past thirty years, continually discovering family up to the present day. The stories began with William Reginald (Reg) born in 1894 who worked for the railways and joined the army in 1913. The tales wove backwards and forwards linking together seemingly separate stories and people, covering wars, desertion, bigamy, attempted murder, happiness, and heartache! I was going to say like many families, but possibly not! Although acted and interpreted at times all the facts were true! We were entertained and flabbergasted by some of the stories told and the final modern-day conclusion which I will not spoil by telling... An enjoyable evening concluded with delicious refreshments provided by Kath, Judy, Janet, and other WI members.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday 12th June** when we look forward to the talk entitled '*Illustrated Map Making*' by Katy Alston. There will also be reports from the Spring Council Meeting held in Shrewsbury and the National Meeting at The Royal Albert Hall. As always, if anyone would like to come along either as a visitor for the evening or to join as a member you would be very welcome. Visitor fee is £2. Please do ring Joy Williams our secretary if you would like any further information on 01584 861 301.

Jayne Disley

## WESTHOPE CLOVER CLUB



Once again, the Clover Club opened on a sad note, remembering Sheila who we lost in April. Our thoughts and love go to her beloved sister Eileen and her daughters Christine and Susan and their families.

Kath then welcomed and introduced Mr Ken Pugh, who had us all laughing with his funny stories of farming life.

Our next meeting is at 2.30pm on **Thursday 6th June** at the Discovery Centre, Craven Arms, to enjoy a cream tea. A warm welcome to everyone.

Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841 254

## CORVEDALE & DISTRICT AUTUMN SHOW

### SCHEDULE NOW AVAILABLE!

The schedule for the 2024 Corvedale Autumn Show is now available online on the Diddlebury parish website.

With around sixty categories, including sections for cooking, preserves, handicrafts, fruit and vegetables, flowers, and the countryside, there is plenty to tempt keen gardeners and cooks. There are also special categories for under 16s, including Lego, baking and handicrafts. The ever-popular 'Spud-in-a-Bucket' competition is also sure to be keenly contested.

The show is at Diddlebury Village Hall on **Saturday 7th September**, starting at 2pm. If you would like a copy of the schedule emailed to you, contact [ross.stokes@icloud.com](mailto:ross.stokes@icloud.com) or see [www.diddleburyparish.co.uk/events](http://www.diddleburyparish.co.uk/events).

Ross Stokes

### NEW ADVERTISER ALERT

WoodWorks & WaterTight

Page 23

# CORVEDALE BOOK GROUP

## WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM BY MARY LYNN BRACHT

*White Chrysanthemum*, by an American author of Korean descent, uses alternating chapters to tell the story of two Korean sisters, Hana and Emi, born on Jeju Island during the period of Japanese occupation. The sisters come from a long line of haenyeo, self-sufficient and resilient women who dive to harvest food from the sea to support their families. The two are separated and their futures destroyed when a Japanese soldier approaches the deserted beach where nine-year-old Emi is guarding their catch; Hana swims desperately ashore to attract his attention and prevent him noticing and capturing the child.

Through Hana's story, set in 1943, we experience moment by moment what it was like for a Korean teenager to be snatched from her family and sent to the front line to be a 'comfort woman'. She is repeatedly traumatised by Morimoto, the soldier who captured her and feels he has a claim on her for which she should be somehow grateful. Emi's story starts in 2011 with her determination to travel to one of the 'Wednesday Demonstrations' in Seoul commemorating the comfort women; she has spent more than sixty years trying to forget the sacrifice her sister made and the guilt she feels about it, rearing children whom she protects from the secret of her forced marriage to their father, a Korean policeman who was involved in the capture and execution of her own mother, even though it puts a distance between herself and her children that is not resolved until the end of the book and her life.

This book had a very powerful impact on all of us and generated animated discussion, especially among those who had personal experience of British survivors of the Korean

war. Comments from our group included:

*"I loved this book, even though it was so painful to read, and the poignant description of the sisters' lives apart and their suffering and imagining of each other's life."*

*"Bracht has done a superb job of opening our eyes to the brutal sexual slavery during this time – and all too often during conflicts."*

*"The narrative kept me interested throughout; managing to blend the absolute horror of Hana's situation with a strong desire to read on."*

*"Although the experience of the 'comfort women' is at the centre of the book, the sequence in the brothel is just one small part of it. Bracht's narrative looks far more widely at the long-term impact of this on individuals and a whole community."*

*"I was intrigued by Korea, it made me want to learn more about its history and the 'comfort women'."*

*"The solidarity within different groups of women is a constant, though understated, feature."*

*"The best book we've ever read at Book Club – both in terms of the writing and the content."*

Corvedale Book Group meets in Diddlebury Village Hall at 7.30pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month. We are a small friendly group, and new members are always welcome! Our next book will be *Unseen Ground* by Claire Fuller.

Clare Smout and Cathy Beardes

## MUNSLOW VILLAGE HALL

Our Thursday coffee mornings concluded this year in April. The final morning was a fundraiser for Guide Dogs for the Blind from which we were able to donate £200 to this amazing charity.

We served teas to visitors at the Millichope House open gardens day on 12th May. This event was fairly quiet despite a really lovely sunny afternoon. Thanks once more to all our great helpers for baking, setting up and serving tea and cakes, and all the clearing up at the end. They do a really great job. Thanks also to Frank and Antonia Bury for giving us this opportunity to raise money for the village hall.

We held a village hall meeting on 16th May to which we

invited everyone from the parish. As we have lost some committee members, we hoped to be able to encourage some new people to join us. Although we had offers from some members of the community, who are willing to join the committee for which we are very grateful, it was rather disappointing that no one else from the parish came to the meeting. The village hall is a resource for the whole parish which extends from Aston Munslow to Broadstone, and we are very keen to keep it as a meeting place for everyone in these communities. If you would like to be involved, please contact Peter Turner email: [pturner767@msn.com](mailto:pturner767@msn.com) or phone Nigel and Lesley Dobson 01584 814 557.

Lesley Dobson

## ALL SAINTS CHURCH TOWER APPEAL

We were delighted to receive a substantial donation from a local resident to our tower appeal which has helped to kick-start the fundraising in earnest. We have three fundraising events for you to enjoy:

### **A Midsummer Evening Feast with BBQ**

*Friday 21st June, 7.00 - 10.00pm.* Bar and Music. This will be held in the churchyard on a hopefully balmy summer evening.

### **Auction of Promises**

*Friday 6th September in Culmington Village Hall at 7.30pm.* If you can support the tower appeal by donating a "promise"

please contact Val Hardwick on [hardwick@sparchford.com](mailto:hardwick@sparchford.com) and come along and enjoy an evening of fun and surprises.

### **A Journey Through India**

*Friday 8th November in Culmington Village Hall at 7.30pm*  
Rev. John Beesley will give a talk on his trip to India with fantastic slides. A curry supper will be served.

We hope you will come along and support our Church Tower Appeal. Many thanks.

Val Hardwick and Andrew Pike, Churchwardens



# CORVEDALE DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT MAY 2023 – APRIL 2024

**COMPRISING THE PARISHES OF ABDON & HEATH, ACTON SCOTT (PARISH MEETING), CLEE ST MARGARET, CULMINGTON, DIDDLEBURY, EATON UNDER HEYWOOD/HOPE BOWDLER, MUNSLOW, RUSHBURY, STANTON LACY, STOKE ST MILBOROUGH**

## **FINANCE**

Throughout the financial year Shropshire Council has been struggling with an historic debt of £50m, due to the huge increase in demand post-Covid for Children and Adult Social care, together with the high costs of providing housing for homeless people and demand for school transport for SEND children. Shropshire is not alone in this; over the last year and into 2024 we have seen a large number of local authorities effectively declare themselves bankrupt because they could not cope with post-Covid demand and the impact of inflation and ever-rising costs on service delivery. Birmingham and Nottingham were the highest profile of these. Such bankruptcy declarations are requested under a Section 114 notice which then means the Government send in a team to go through finances and balance the books, often through draconian measures such as selling off capital assets and closing all non-statutory services such as libraries and leisure centres.

Shropshire Council was determined to avoid this and set stringent savings targets, particularly in Social Care, which were not only realised but actually exceeded. The Directorate succeeded in reorganising services and using new technology to support people in their homes by concentrating on increasing domiciliary care services and a prevention programme to help keep our elderly population well and out of hospital. By the end of the 2023/24 financial year we had achieved massive savings of £22m. No resting on our laurels though, as we are faced with another financial mountain to climb in the 2024/5 financial year, and I will be reporting on our progress as we tackle this huge new challenge

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY REVIEW**

This was finally completed and has left some electoral divisions somewhat changed, especially around Shrewsbury, which has seen a large increase in population since 2009. In order to make sense of the changes to divisions we've had to alter some of the parish boundaries. This has required detailed work from our legal team to get the changes incorporated (and some polling districts redrawn) in time for the forthcoming General Election.

The Corvedale was one of the divisions to be enlarged by the inclusion of Cardington parish. The LG BCE were insistent that each division should have around 3,500 residents and despite its extensive geography Corvedale fell short of this. The introduction of Cardington has rebalanced the numbers and we look forward to welcoming the residents of Cardington parish in 2025 after the Local Government elections in May 2025.

There are some minor changes to parish boundaries within the divisions which have been asked for by the parishes. These will be dealt with by the Council's internal Community Governance Review committee after the 2025 Election.

## **FLOODING**

We have endured the wettest winter on record. Many villages in the Corvedale have suffered from overflowing watercourses, and the speed of runoff from the hills and fields which can continue for days after the rain has stopped. We have endured clogged drains, lanes scoured out by fast running

water, bridges undermined and flooding in areas which are normally unaffected. Our highways team is doing its best but can be plagued by pothole repairs being washed away in the next downpour. Parish councils with a lengthsman have done a sterling job digging out clogged ditches and clearing grids, drains etc. Although FixMyStreet works reasonably well, the rural parishes still seem to be low on the list when it comes to road repairs, due to the inaccessibility of some of the rural roads. If we could expand the lengthsman scheme and set up mutually supportive communication with our highways depots I feel the scheme would work much better for the rural areas. I will be working on this in the coming year.

## **ADULT SOCIAL CARE/PUBLIC HEALTH**

I have held this portfolio since 2022. It is complex and wide-ranging and involves close working with health partners through the NHS Integrated Care Board and the Shropshire & Telford Acute Trust covering Shropshire & Telford Hospitals.

Caring for vulnerable adults is one of the Council's most important statutory duties, whether those with learning disabilities or mental health issues between the ages of 18-65 or our 65+ residents. We have a duty of care to ensure people are safe and properly looked after, either in their own homes, with domiciliary care support, or in residential care or nursing homes. We work closely alongside partners from health, the voluntary and private sectors to deliver the most appropriate support to ensure people can remain in the heart of their communities for as long as possible.

Providing care for both adults and children is by far the most expensive service provided by the Council, absorbing 77% of the Council's overall budget. Shropshire is a very rural county and care delivery costs are higher in rural areas than in the towns. Costs are rising every year as our population grows and our residents develop increasingly complex health needs. We have also taken action in the past year to inject extra funding into the domiciliary care market, which is working very well.

2024/25 will be even more challenging financially than last year for social care. We know that most people are much happier living in their own homes than in a care home. We are devising a variety of technologies to help people stay safe and well in their homes. These include technology in the home which checks on the elderly and vulnerable to ensure they have eaten, taken their medication etc. The virtual ward scheme is growing; this enables sick people to be cared for remotely through constant oversight via computer link and physical interventions by a doctor or nurse when required.

On the Public Health side we have been working closely with our Health partners through the Health & Wellbeing Board, which I co-chair with the CEO of the Integrated Care Board. The HWB Board has done great work in highlighting issues of access to healthcare, encouraging the social prescribing programme and supporting community-based health hubs which are being rolled out throughout the county to help people access support without having to travel long distances. Other public health campaigns include stopping

child vaping, working to reduce suicide levels particularly amongst the rural community, and developing a healthier weight strategy. We're also working on formulating a rural healthcare programme. This is one of my particular interests and I am pleased to see that it is being picked up by the Health Service. Public Health also funds the Health and Wellbeing Bus which visits the farmers' markets regularly and offers free healthchecks and health advice. This has proved to be a great asset and popular with the farmers.

Finally: looking ahead, there is there is a General Election in July, followed by Local Government Elections in May 2025. Shropshire Council will spend the year ahead defying the Section 114 notice by continuing to innovate, cut costs and serve our population as best we can in difficult circumstances.

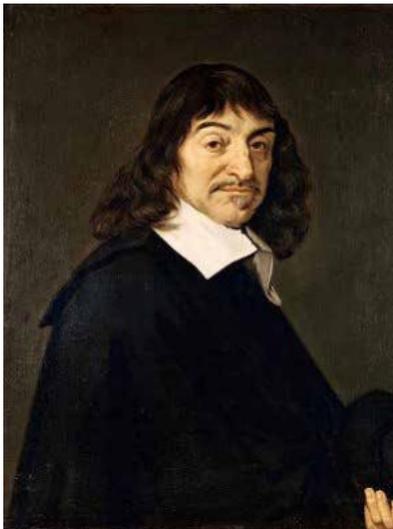
Cecilia Motley  
Shropshire Councillor,  
Corvedale Division  
Portfolio Holder,  
Adult Social Care  
& Public Health



## CORVEDALE PAST & PRESENT

### NO, REALLY, RENÉ IT'S FINE!

Last month I wrote of 17c. John-Baptiste von Humbolt who 'hunkered down' under house arrest imposed by the Holy Inquisition (Holland being controlled by the Spanish). He had the temerity to enquire how nature worked. I would like now to tell you about a Frenchman who was in Holland at the same time.



René Descartes – had they met – would surely have been a great supporter of J-BvH, another thinker (maths, physics, philosophy that type of thing), which didn't go down too well with the powers that be. He had 'escaped' from a French frying-pan into a Dutch fire. Some move! It is said he had to move house twenty times in Holland to escape the black habits. He was trying to enlighten Europe,

attacking what he saw as ignorance, prejudice, superstition, and suffocating religious dogma. He most famously said: 'I think therefore I am', and 'Conquer yourself not the world'. So quite a man, and no doubt rightly hailed as the Father of Western Philosophy. I became interested in the chap because for much of what I read and listen to these days mentions him in not altogether glowing terms. So what was going on there? René's ideas were scarcely new, largely repeating what Plato had said in the ancient world. He was, after all, trying to help human beings live happier, more fulfilled lives.

Maybe the problem is this: as time has passed everything that was not deemed logical, rational or scientific (we could have endless fun with that word, folks!) was dumped into a bin called 'superstition'. This has been an appalling disaster. You could argue that this has led to a world which is not just so often crazy but increasingly self-destructive. Over those several centuries things like intuition, ritual, the timeless and spiritual, veneration of our forebears and ancestors, and ancient wisdom have been pushed to one side, at least in the Western World. If they are not 'scientific', then maybe it is the

science that is at fault in not turning its gaze on normal and important aspects of being human.

The people I read (perhaps not critically enough) regard our modern technology, science and finance-driven world as hopelessly flawed, and are very fond of words such as 'mechanistic', 'materialist' or 'reductive'. I lap up this stuff, which shows an alternative to the headlong cliff-edge-directed gallop. Sadly perhaps, the sentiment arises that 'Of course this all started with Descartes and was carried on by Newton'. I just wonder if this a bit unfair to both those gentlemen.

No, really, René and Isaac, it's OK.

That said, the world has become cleverer and narrower. As education has become tram-lined and frenetic, wider horizons fade. Professions and occupations become mastered by 'tech' and industry and so poorer for people. Somehow, assumption and practice has ossified into dogma even if they never were based on sound principles. Those who differ have are 'woolly', 'weird', 'weak-minded' or just 'one-offs' (officially, that is: views over coffee or a beer can be radically different).

So, let's have a bit of recap. Von Humbolt (please see the last edition of the Corvedale News or [villageandamandevе.uk](http://villageandamandevе.uk) 'History Boy') did something extraordinary which should have changed our outlook on the soil particularly, but seemingly has been largely ignored up to recent times. Now, though, it is being seen as a vital step if the world is to regenerate. René, by contrast, articulated a whole stream of thought – Cartesian – which in hindsight was inevitable given the state of Europe in his age, emerging from the long medieval epoch. At the time it must have seemed like a sunlit upland. If, as years have rolled by, theory and practice have become faster but more confined, is that really René's fault?

I'd argue not. In my own field of practice – a curious mix of applied science and technology haunted by the shadow of a past art, it slowly dawned that doctoring was a bit like being on a fast train, nervously confident of direction of travel, but not too receptive of wider influence, or seeing the danger of throwing out the baby and treasuring and guarding the bathwater!

Peter Cornah, [villageandamandevе.uk](http://villageandamandevе.uk)

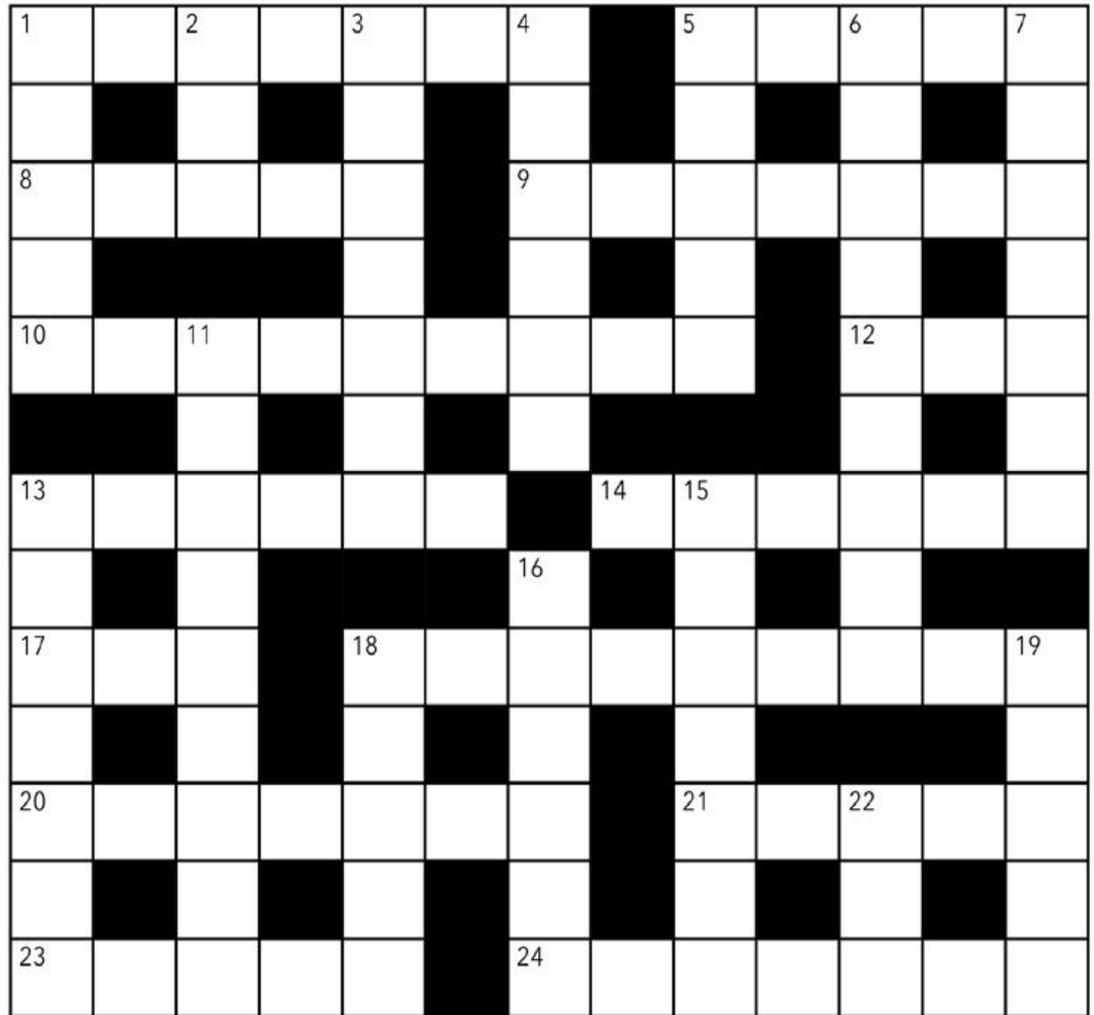
# JUNE CROSSWORD

BY ARTEMONAS

Answers to this month's crossword  
can be found on page 24 in this  
edition of the magazine.

## ACROSS

- 1,5) A way of greeting nervous workers (7,5)
- 8) Egret may turn by 1,5ac (5)
- 9) Sick and 99 have it but it's not legal (7)
- 10) Illegal importers of strange slug germs (9)
- 12) Some physical activities first found in Harrogate (3)
- 13) Any car can damage a songbird (6)
- 14) Light tinge I mixed together (6)
- 17) Put the ball in the hole and pan (3)



## DOWN

- 1) Stories which can be taken either way (5)
- 2) Copy a close relative (3)
- 3) 8ac in a dubious way. Not a fraction (7)
- 4) Girls who show you the right way (6)
- 5) They are alive and follow Beverly (5)
- 6) Essential to build a city with sense (9)
- 7) Fed up possibly at a site (7)
- 11) Peacemakers unchanged but strange (9)
- 13) Mimic given journalist's work to act silly (7)
- 15) Long-term bitterness first seen on the ship (7)
- 16) High regard for the East meets with a set-back (6)
- 18) Die in water. Right down around it. (5)
- 19) With awful fear, Dan read on (5)
- 22) Everything starts with a last laugh (3)

# CULMINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

## DRAFT MINUTES OF THE CULMINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ON TUESDAY 7TH MAY 2024

**Attendance:** Cllrs Mr Andrew Pike (vice Chair), Mr Ian Alderson, Mrs Carol Byng, Mrs Mary Holland, Mrs Jo Mear, Mr Matthew Seabrook, Mr Ian Steele and Mr John Turley. One member of the public. Heather Coonick (Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer).

**Apologies for Absence:** Cllr J Watts and Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council).

**Notice Convening the Meeting:** In accordance with statute, the notice convening this meeting has been duly published on the Council's Notice Boards and website.

**Annual Reports for 2023-2024: Parish Council:** Cllr Pike (Vice Chair), said: 'Firstly, thanks to Cllrs Mear and Byng for representing the Council on the Village Hall Committee and Flood Action Group, and to all the councillors. Also, to Cllr Motley (Shropshire Council) who manages to attend all our meetings, Dave Lewis (Environmental Maintenance), Jeff Williams (Footpath Group), Hugh Disley (Flood Action Group) and Jayne Disley for doing the audit and two volunteers who are updating the website and Heather Coonick, the Clerk. Since May 2023 there has been a rotating chair; thanks to all those councillors. Several planning applications have been scrutinised and an application in contravention of Culmington's 'Open Countryside' designation was successfully challenged. The Boundary Review is still ongoing with discussions with Diddlebury Parish Council. Seifton Brook was not desilted last year, but it is planned for this June. The Environmental Maintenance Grant will be used to fund this alongside the regular work of the contractor, Dave Lewis. The Parish Council made donations to the Village Hall Committee (for the maintenance of the defibrillator), Ludlow Hospital League of Friends, Dial-a-Ride, Ripples and Midlands Air Ambulance. This is the final year of the present council, with elections due in May 2025'.

**Cllr Cecilia Motley,** Shropshire Council, had sent apologies.

**Village Hall Committee:** Cllr Jo Mear said: 'The hall is now operating again after flood damage and the refurbishment of the kitchen. The closure resulted in the loss of regular bookings, but these are picking up again now with a specific group working on this. They are reviewing the governing documents. All the health and safety and electrical checks have been completed and recommendations acted upon. There have been lots of events over the year and lots of future ones planned, with good networking with other halls to prevent clashes. The hall now has WiFi after a lot of hard work and with the support of Avril Enston and Peter Lines. The battery for the defibrillator has been replaced, thanks to the grant from the Parish Council, and there has been further training in its use. Jeff Williams has handed over bookings to Avril Lines. The plan for the coming year will be to push forward with obtaining grants for the extension. The committee is a strong team, keen to improve the facilities of the hall'.

**Flood Action Group:** Cllr Carol Byng reported on a meeting on 4th April with Shropshire Council, Shropshire Wildlife Trust and the National Flood Forum. The Environment Agency had sent a letter saying they do not support a plan to desilt the stream below the bridge by Culmington House. FAG will challenge their letter and invite them to the next meeting to discuss the issue. Shropshire Council would also write to them. There had been a lengthy discussion about possible grants and assistance for farmers regarding measure they could take to reduce flooding. It was hoped that the information would be made available at the Tractor Run. Andy Keyland (Shropshire Council) was still dealing with problems with water welling up in an area of the village, and on the B4365.

**Culmington P3 Footpath Group:** Mr Jeff Williams had sent a report. There had been four projects in March and April – at Stanton Lacy, Mulberry Lane and Barracks Farm, with the latter being five stiles (some with dog gates) and a bridge. They had opened up a footpath through Laundry Cottages works, replacing footbeds

and adding signs. A bridge rail on the footbridge between Laundry Cottages and the end of Seifton Lane had been repaired, also a footbridge across the ford on Seifton Lane. They had replaced edging and gravel on Church Walk with the help of Ludlow Scouts, and taken delivery of three loads of gravel and wood, all paid for with a grant. Long standing work to do included: - Culmington to Burley Farm footpath stiles, Medley Park to North Road stiles, and the realignment of the footpath from Culmington to footbridge (officially a bridleway), after Council directions. They would help Stanton Lacy P3 group to get started with the installation of a stile. Thanks to Andrew, Peter(s) and others for support. Kit was held at Seifton Court; tools (two sets), and stile kits.

**Neighbourhood Fund:** The Parish Council had received £3,234.22 from the Neighbourhood Fund (Community Infrastructure Levy). This was to help communities accommodate the impact of new development. There was no urgency to decide on this expenditure. One suggestion was that it should be used to assist the Village Hall with the cost of the extension. The Clerk would place a note in Ripples asking parishioners for suggestions.

**Infrastructure Projects for inclusion in the Place Plan:** The items already in the Place Plan are a. Extension to the speed limit to beyond the entrance to Clay Lane. b. Rights of Way improvements c. extension of the Village Hall to provide a bar d. a defibrillator for Seifton.

No further projects were identified for consideration for inclusion in the place plan.

**Grants and Donations for 2024-2025:** The following will be considered by the Parish Council later in the year: Ludlow Hospital League of Friends, Ripples, Midlands Air Ambulance and First Responders.

**Open Forum:** Mr Jonathan Caine wished to inform the Parish Council of his plans to make changes to the entrance to his field next to Seifton Brook Cottage to improve the safety of vehicles entering and exiting. The Council had no issues with the plan but advised Mr Caine to discuss the matter with Shropshire Council Highways.

## DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7TH MAY 2024

**Present:** Councillors Mr I Alderson, Mrs C Byng, Mrs M Holland, Ms J Mear, Mr A Pike, Mr M Seabrook, Mr I Steele and Mr J Turley.

**Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson:** Cllrs Byng and Holland proposed Cllr Seabrook as Chair. Cllrs Mear and Holland proposed Cllr Pike as Vice Chair. They were duly elected and both signed the Acceptance of Office forms.

**Apologies for Absence:** Cllr J Watts and Cllr Cecilia Motley (Shropshire Council).

**Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting:** None.

**Minutes** of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday, 2nd April 2024 were accepted and the chair signed them as an accurate record.

**Power of Competence:** The Council fulfils the requirements and thus holds the Power of Competence.

### Appointment of Representatives:

**Village Hall Committee** – Cllr J Mear was elected.

**Flood Committee** – Cllr C Byng was elected.

**South Shropshire Area Committee** – The Clerk was asked to attend future meetings to represent the Council.

**Emergency Officer** – The Clerk would contact the Flood Action Group and the Village Hall Committee to identify the best way of fulfilling this role.

**Standing Orders and Financial Regulations** were adopted.

**Vehicle Activated Sign for the Eastern Entrance to Culmington:** Shropshire Council had installed the incorrect size of post. They had been asked to replace it with a larger post to accommodate the sign.

**Issues Raised at the Annual Parish Meeting:** It was decided that no actions were required.

**Infrastructure Projects for the Place Plan:** The Clerk would investigate the powers of expenditure regarding the parish church and report to the next meeting.

**Environmental Maintenance Grant:** It was agreed that the expenditure of the grant for 2023-24 has been in accordance with the grant specification.

**Shropshire Council's Proposals for Recycling Centres:** The Council would respond to the consultation in support of retaining the Recycling Centre at Craven Arms.

**West Mercia Police Charter Priorities for the Parish:** The Council resolved to request attendance by the police at the July Parish Council meeting. The priorities for the charter should be a. speeding on the B4368 and B4365. b. Rural Crime c. Fly tipping

**Finance:** The precept of £5,040.10 has been received. Payments to the Shropshire Association of Local Councils (Affiliation Fee - £224.00), D Lewis (Inv 502, Environmental Maintenance) £51.00, Hugo Fox (website, Culmington Parish Council April 2024-March 2025 - £122.28), H Coonick (clerk reimbursement for stationery etc) £25.43. Mr J Williams, (Parish paths) £57.50 were agreed.

Mr Lewis had requested an increase to £18 per hour for his Environmental Maintenance contract. This was agreed.

**Annual Report, Asset Register and Insurance Quotes:** The Annual Report for 2023-24 showed an income of £8,855.68 (which included the Police and Crime Commissioner grant for the Vehicle Activated Sign) and expenditure of £6,154.89. The carry forward total was £9,813.91 which reconciled with the bank account as at 31 March 2024. The asset register value was £6,119.00 with a replacement value of £8,987.00.

A quote of £241.00 had been received from Zurich Insurance and

further quotes had been requested. It was agreed to accept the Annual Report and Asset Register. The Zurich Insurance Quote would be accepted and paid unless a more favourable and comparable quote were received.

**Internal Auditor's Report:** Mrs Jayne Disley, the internal auditor, had completed her audit and signed the report with no issues. A payment had been made which had not been authorised by full council but it was supported by an invoice: she had no concerns about the matter.

**Annual Governance Statement:** This was approved and signed by the Chair and Clerk.

**Annual Accounting Statement:** The Council confirmed that the accounting statements were accurate and were approved.

**Certificate of Exemption:** Neither the council's income nor expenditure exceeded £25,000 for 2023-24 and it exempted itself from a limited assurance review. The Certificate of Exemption was signed by the Clerk/RFO and Chair.

**Dates for the Notice of Public Rights:** This notice gave members of the public the right to view the accounts during the specified period. It was agreed to set the dates for the Notice of Public rights as 1st July to 9th August 2024 and they would be publicised on the website and notice boards on the 26th June 2024.

**Dates of the Ordinary Meetings for the forthcoming year:** they will be 4th June, 2nd July, 3rd September, 1st October, 5th November 2024, and 7th January, 4th February, 4th March, 1st April and the 6th May 2025.

**Items for the Parish Council Meetings** at 7.30pm on 4th June 2024, 2023: None.

[www.culmington.org](http://www.culmington.org) • Heather Coonick Clerk/RFO  
Telephone: 07817 607 355 • [culmingtonpc@gmail.com](mailto:culmingtonpc@gmail.com)  
Hopton Gate Cottage, Haytons Bent, Ludlow SY8 2BE

## MUNSLOW PARISH COUNCIL

### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4TH APRIL 2024.

**Present:** Cllrs Barbara Archer (chair), Val Fotheringham, Andy Johnson, David Marston, Chris Meeson and Edward Povey.

**In Attendance:** Cllr Cecilia Motley and H Coonick (Clerk/RFO).

**Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Antonia Bury and Nigel Dobson.

**Declarations of Interest:** None.

**Public Forum:** No members of the public were in attendance.

**Minutes** of the meeting held on 7th March 2024 were signed by the chair as a correct record.

**Reports: Chair's Report** - Cllr Archer said she had attended the chairs' meeting on 14th March. Car parking fee increases were discussed, particularly the introduction of fees on Sundays, also the potential closure of the recycling centres and charges for green waste collection. There were concerns about the poor highways signage during road closures; businesses were losing customers in some situations where there were poor directions.

**Shropshire Council** - Cllr Motley reported that if charging were to be introduced on Sundays, it would be likely to be only £1 per day. Parking in Ludlow was not too costly in comparison with other areas. Shropshire Council did not want to close any recycling centres but it was more lenient than other counties and may introduce controls on non-Shropshire residents using the sites. They were looking at all options to keep them open. The cost of providing services in rural areas is a major issue for the county. The main expenditure was on statutory services for children and social care. There were more children presenting with Special Educational Needs who required transport to school which was a statutory duty for the Council to provide.

**Beambridge Club Room** - Cllr Dobson had sent a report: The coffee mornings over the winter had been a great success: they had been

well attended and made approximately £160. There would be a special coffee morning on 18th April to raise funds for Guide Dogs for the Blind.

**Highways:** An update on the Application for a Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign was deferred to the next meeting.

Cllr Dobson had sent a report saying that the Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs were working well and the one presently in Hungerford would be moved to the north end of Munslow that week. If the Council had a new sign they could be rotated more frequently and extra spots be used. New mounting straps and padlocks were needed.

**Traffic calming on the B4368:** The council reviewed the proposals from Diddlebury PC and the Clerk would write to Diddlebury PC informing them that Munslow PC supported their proposal.

**Environmental Maintenance and New Tasks:** An application had been made to Shropshire Council requesting £600, to be matched with £600 from Munslow Parish Council. This would enable the service to continue in 2024-2025.

**Planning: 24/00917/FUL** - Reinstatement of outbuilding. Munslow Farmhouse, Munslow, Craven Arms, Shropshire, SY7 9ET. The Council resolved to support this application.

**Notice of Vacancy of a Councillor for Munslow Parish Council:** Cllr Andy Johnson had handed his resignation to the Chair, effective from the end of that meeting. Cllr Archer thanked Cllr Johnson for his time with the council and wished him well in his move.

The Clerk would inform councillors by email of the process and would post the Notice of a Vacancy in the week commencing 22nd April 2024. Shropshire Council had been informed of the vacancy.

**Vehicles parking on the Aston Munslow 'Village Green/Car Park':** There have been reports of a motorhome parking overnight on the Village Car Park. The council would keep a watching brief on this situation and would investigate whether the Land Registry could be asked to inform the Parish Council if a claim of ownership

was made by any party.

**Shropshire, Telford, Wrekin and Mid Wales Hospital Transformation Programme:** The Clerk had attended a Zoom meeting with the NHS Transformation team. They wished to inform Councils that Shrewsbury Hospital would deal mainly with emergency cases and the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford mainly with planned cases.

**Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting:** The council was keen to attract members of the public to the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm Thursday 9th May at Beambridge Village Hall/ Club Room to better understand the needs of the parish. Cllr Povey would produce a poster which could be posted on notice boards, in the Corvedale News, on the website and in social media. The Annual Parish Council meeting will follow at 8pm.

**Statement of Internal Controls:** The controls were reviewed. It

was agreed they were correct and adequate and they would be adopted.

**Accounts:** As at 28th February 2024 the bank account held £11,129.78 which reconciled with the accounts. Cllrs Marston and Johnson signed the reconciliation.

**Payments were authorised to:** H Coonick, Clerk (reimbursement for stationery and inks) £58.54, Costs associated with the Annual Parish Meeting were agreed up to £75. New mounting straps and padlocks for the Vehicle Activated Signs up to £60.

**Next Meetings:** The next meetings would be on Thursday 9th May 2024: the Annual Parish Meeting would start at 7.00pm and would be followed by the Annual Parish Council at 8.00pm.

**Minutes and Agendas** are available on [www.munslowparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.munslowparishcouncil.co.uk) or from the Clerk on [munslowpc@gmail.com](mailto:munslowpc@gmail.com) or 07817 607355

## DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL

### SUMMARY OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL'S MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL 2024 AT DIDDLEBURY VILLAGE HALL

**Present:** Cllr D Hedgley - Chairman, Cllrs R Povall, C Martyn, A Watson, A Rattu, T O'Boyle.

**Apologies:** Cllr R Morgan and Cllr T Pardoe.

**In Attendance:** The Clerk, Shropshire Councillor C Motley, and one member of the public.

**No Declarations of Interest** were made.

**Minutes** of the Parish Council Meeting of 20th March 2024 were approved by councillors and Matters Arising were considered.

**Reports:** *The Chairman* reported he has held further site meetings to obtain quotations for the works needed for the proposed public playground in Diddlebury. The fencing works had now been completed. He had made enquiries with the Planning Department about application 24/01088/FUL.

*Shropshire Councillor Motley* reported on the Cabinet's ongoing difficulties with the £62 million deficit in its annual budget. The Care Quality Commission was conducting an assessment of adult social care. Discussions continued concerning the proposed Marches Management Agreement, promoting closer ties with adjoining Welsh counties. It remained to be seen whether the government preferred to create larger authorities headed by mayors.

**Flood Action Group Report:** Cllr Martyn reported on two recent meetings of the Flood Forum. Negotiations continued to deal with the problems in Bouldon. Shropshire Wildlife Trust were taking forward plans for Slow the Flow projects. There was a lack of agreement between local FAG's on the best approach to flooding issues.

**Planning application:** Councillors considered application 24/01088/FUL for the erection of a detached garage at Fox Cover House, Bache Mill. The application was supported by DPC.

Application 24/01173/TCA for the felling of various trees at The Old Vicarage, Diddlebury – a conservation area – had been dealt with via the provisions of Standing Order 27 and had been approved by the council.

**Highways/Environmental Issues:** Cllrs Rattu and O'Boyle report, setting out various measures suggested to reduce the speed of vehicles on the B4368, had been approved by Munslow Parish Council. It would now be submitted to Mr Newton of Highways.

Cllr O'Boyle reported that there was now a 40mph limit – previously 60mph – between Shipton and Morville.

The possible closure of the Craven Arms Recycling Centre was again discussed and all councillors and residents are asked to respond to SC's survey. Cllr Motley confirmed SC had not yet reached a decision on the proposed closure.

**Communications and Correspondence:** Twelve items were considered. A response from Connexus about the possible demolition and redevelopment of its three houses in Mill Lane was considered and further questions for Connexus would be submitted.

**Public access playground in Diddlebury:** Further quotations for the works had been obtained and discussed. An additional item of equipment and a picnic bench would be included in the project, with financial help from the Corvedale School Association. A contract for the works could not be issued until Shropshire Council paid DPC a further tranche of Neighbourhood Funds which was now overdue. The fencing works required had been completed.

**Ev Electric Car Charging Unit For Diddlebury:** A response from the DVH committee is awaited about the siting of an EV unit at Diddlebury Village Hall.

**Finance Matters:** The Finance Report for April 2024 was considered and cheques totalling £1,417.08 were approved for payment, after which DPC held funds totalling £22,211.63. Cllr O'Boyle verified the reconciliation between DPC's cash book and HSBC bank statement 380.

**Audit 2023-2024:** A Schedule of all Receipts and Payments and an end of financial year reconciliation between DPC's Cash Book and Bank statement were checked and approved, in readiness for submission to the auditor.

**Any Other Business:** The Chairman reminded councillors of the Annual Parish Meeting on 22nd May 2024 and asked for reports to be submitted ahead of the meeting.

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was closed at 8.50pm

**The Annual Parish Meeting is on Wednesday 22nd May 2024, 7.15pm at Diddlebury Village Hall, to be followed by the Parish Council Meeting.**

Agendas and full copies of the minutes can be viewed on the Diddlebury Parish Council website [www.diddleburyparish.co.uk](http://www.diddleburyparish.co.uk) or obtained from the Clerk, Mrs J de Russett at No 12 Church Road, Brampton Bryan, Bucknell, SY7 0DH, Tel: 01547 519282, [diddleburypc@outlook.com](mailto:diddleburypc@outlook.com)

## ABDON PARISH COUNCIL

**Date Of Next Meeting:** The next meeting (which would be the AGM) would be on 9th May 2024.

Wendy Richards - Parish Clerk: [abdonandheathclerk1@outlook.com](mailto:abdonandheathclerk1@outlook.com)  
Tel: 07813 271 274

# CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE



Recently I was in Brittany, and what a special place to be. We have been before but for the first time we visited the department of Finisterre - the end of the earth! It was a stunning landscape, especially the 'mountains', the highest land in the county, with the remnants of the ice-age and the huge boulders that have formed these hills. And through it all runs water.



*St Milburga's Well,  
Stoke St Milborough*

Even more recently, I was in Stoke St Milborough with the Churchyard Task Team, the Caring for God's Acre group that works all over the county, looking after the unique environments that are our ancient churchyards. I worked hard, scything and raking, but I did sneak off at one point to visit the Holy Well dedicated to St Milburga. It's just around the corner from the church dedicated to her. I took some pictures

of the water gushing and tumbling over the stones. The sound, accompanied by bird song is exquisite.

It brought back a memory of Brittany and got me thinking about the sound and power of water. Our lives are totally dependent on this natural asset. In medieval times, these Holy Wells were famous, and many miracles were attributed

to them. They were the tourist attractions of their time! There is another Holy Well dedicated to Milburga, the Abbess of the female Priory alongside the male Priory, in the town of Much Wenlock. She was a very powerful Anglo-Saxon woman in South Shropshire.

St Winifred's Well near the village of Woolston, not far from Oswestry is a special one. The cult of Winifred lasted for centuries; a medieval woman we know nothing about. But that need not spoil a good story! Her suitor, Caradoc, was so angered by her rejection, he cut off her head. Fortunately St Beuno, a relative of hers, restored her to life and where her head hit the ground, a well sprang up and is still there today in Wales. She lived a peaceful life as a nun in a number of Welsh convents until her death (again!). Her body was dug up in about 1138 and her bones transferred to Shrewsbury Abbey, resting overnight near Woolston. As she left, a well sprang up and is still there for you to visit.

There is also St Oswald's well near the parish church dedicated to him in Oswestry. (A church well worth a visit if you have never done so - go on market day on Wednesday and you will still hear Welsh spoken in this attractive border town).

Other wells include St Julian's in Ludlow and the one at Hope Bagot, not dedicated to anyone, but I bet those tourists turned up at this Norman building, small but delightful, and today a flower meadow for a graveyard.

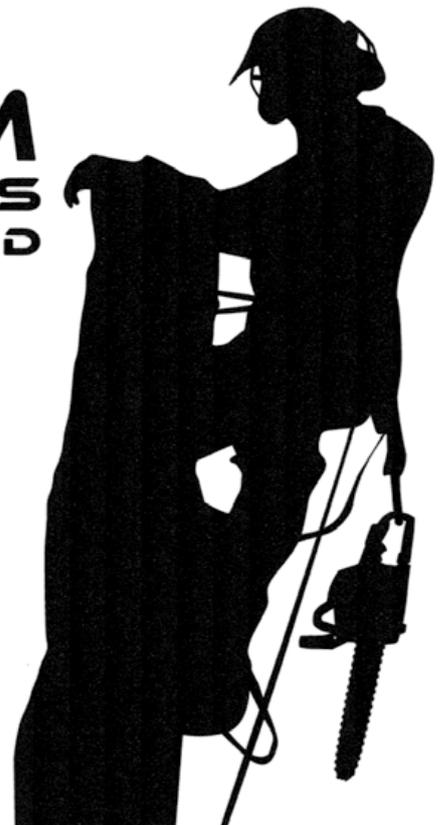
Anni Holden Calver  
Trustee of Caring for God's Acre  
and Churchyard Task Team cheerleader!

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- |                      |            |                |
|----------------------|------------|----------------|
| 1, 5) Shaking Hands; | 8) Greet;  | 9) Illicit;    |
| 10) Smugglers;       | 12) Spa;   | 13) Canary;    |
| 14) Ignite;          | 17) Pot;   | 18) Displayed; |
| 20) Corrode;         | 21) Erase; | 23) Talon;     |
| 24) Mangled          |            |                |

### DOWN:

- |              |                |              |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1) Sagas;    | 2) Ape;        | 3) Integer;  |
| 4) Guides;   | 5) Hills;      | 6) Necessity |
| 7) Satiated; | 11) Unnatural; | 13) Copycat; |
| 15) Galleon; | 16) Esteem;    | 18) Drown;   |
| 19) Dread;   | 22) All        |              |



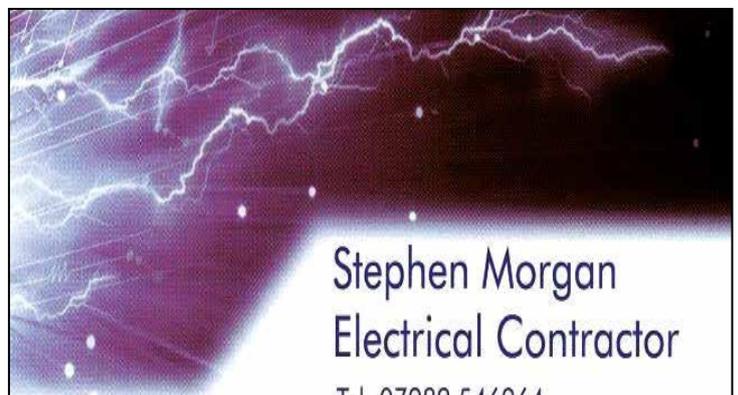
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**Diddlebury Parish Flood Action Group**  
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**Ludlow Minor Injuries Unit**  
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**Craven Arms Medical Practice**  
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**Police (non-emergency)**  
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jennifer.price@westmercia.police.uk.

**Voluntary Car Scheme - 9am - noon**  
Craven Arms Good Neighbours,  
01588 673732

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### CHILDREN'S & YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

**Corvedale Brownies**  
www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter'

**Corvedale School, Playgroup and Nursery**  
Jonathan Brough, 01584 841630,  
admin@corvedaleprimary.co.uk

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### WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

**Diddlebury & Westhope WI**  
Joy Williams, 01584 861849  
f\_j\_williams@btinternet.com

**Munslow WI**  
Jenny Rose, 01584 841251,  
gandjrose@mypostoffice.co.uk

---

### CONTACTS

### PARISH COUNCILS

**Abdon & Heath Parish Clerk**  
Wendy Richards, 07813 271274,  
abdonandheathclerk1@outlook.com

**Culmington Parish Council Clerk**  
Heather Coonick, 07817 607355,  
culmingtonpc@googlemail.com

**Diddlebury Parish Council Clerk**  
Mrs Jean de Rusett, 01547 519282,  
diddleburypc@outlook.com

**Munslow Parish Council Clerk**  
Heather Coonick, 07817 607355,  
munslowpc@gmail.com

**Diddlebury Parish Website**  
www.diddleburyparish.co.uk

**Corvedale Google Group**  
This is a free service and issues purely local information such as road closures, flood warnings, planning applications, local events and so on to its members on a regular basis. If you would like to join this service, please email Martin Jones: [martinggc@gmail.com](mailto:martinggc@gmail.com)

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### VILLAGE HALL/CLUB ROOM BOOKINGS

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Margaret Buckingham, 01746 712296,  
www.abdonandheathparish.org,  
abdon.villagehall@gmail.com

**Beambridge Club Room**  
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Peter Turner, pturner767@msn.com

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**Diddlebury Church Room**  
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jan\_kennedy@icloud.com

**Westhope Village Hall**  
Betty Manley, 07860 447397,  
mbm3049@icloud.com

### CLUBS & SOCIETIES

**Abdon Wildlife Group**  
Miles Leach, 07810 810400,  
milesleach712@gmail.com

**Blue Hills Choir**  
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ros.crouch@gmail.com

**Corvedale Artists**  
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Ann Hankinson, 01584 841460

**Corvedale Book Group**  
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**Corvedale Choir**  
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**Corvedale & District Autumn Show**  
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**Corvedale Folk Club**  
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**Corvedale Garden Group**  
Cath Burley,  
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**Corvedale Footpath Maintenance Group**  
Jenny Vine, 01584 841596,  
jvcedarwood@hotmail.co.uk

**Community Environmental Group**  
Rebecca Bull,  
peter17bull@btinternet.com

**Diddlebury Dancing Group**  
Sally Woodhouse,  
01584 841265, 07813 019010  
sallyewhome@yahoo.co.uk

**Westhope Clover Club**  
Kath Woodhouse, 01584 841254

---

*If you represent a local Corvedale group and would like it to be added to this list, please contact the Editor.*





# THE CORVEDALE GROUP OF PARISHES

## CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE 2024

	2ND JUNE Trinity 1	9TH JUNE Trinity 2	16TH JUNE Trinity 3	23RD JUNE Trinity 4	30TH JUNE Trinity 5	7TH JULY Trinity 6
ABDON		9:45 HC		6pm EP	10am Group Service of Holy Communion at Holdgate	
BROADSTONE			8:30 HC			
CULMINGTON	11:15 HC		6pm Compline	8:30 HC		11:15 HC
DIDDLEBURY	9:45 HC	6pm EP	11:15 HC	11:15 FS		9:45 HC
HOLDGATE	8:30 HC					8:30 HC
MUNSLOW	6pm EP	11:15 HC		9:45 HC		6pm EP
TUGFORD			9:45 HC			

**Key:** HC = Holy Communion, EP = Evensong, FS = Family Service