

# BERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Henry Carpenter  
Henrycarpenter@berringtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk: Lisa Harris  
Clerk@berringtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on 4 June 2026 at Chapel Community Centre, Cross Houses

**Present:** Parish Councillors A Abbott, H Carpenter (Chair), H Eccles, S Hess, C Morris, M Rathbone, A Yeomans

**Clerk:** Lisa Harris

**Also present:** 3 members of the public

### 38.26 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Shropshire Councillor S Coleman.

### 39.26 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

a) No disclosable pecuniary interests were declared.

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

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

A parishioner advised that she was organising a screening of “The People’s Emergency Briefing” - a 50-minute documentary film and nationwide community initiative that explores the severe realities of the UK's climate and nature crisis. Hosted by Chris Packham, it features leading British scientists, health experts, and public figures discussing evidence-based threats to everyday life and presenting actionable solutions. The film will be shown at The Chapel Community Centre on Wednesday 24 June.

Mr James Healey had nothing to report regarding the Community Speedwatch Scheme. However, progress had been made researching the potential installation of solar panels on the roof of The Chapel Community Centre. Together with Councillor Abbott had met with a contractor earlier in the week, and it appeared that the project was feasible. It was confirmed that the roof is south-facing and has a capacity in the regions of 50kWh. Would be submitting a grant application imminently to the Great British Energy Community Fund (a £5 million programme aimed at helping communities develop and install their own sustainable energy solutions.) Mr Healey asked if there had been any engagement relating to community benefit between the Parish Council and the developer of the Berrington solar farm. Councillor Carpenter responded that, to his knowledge, there had been no such engagement with the developer on the part of the Parish Council, but he would seek clarification from Berrington residents. The matter would be put on the next agenda.

### 41.26 To approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 7 May 2026

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

**It was proposed** by Councillor Abbott and seconded by Councillor Eccles and  
**resolved (without opposition)**

that the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 7 May 2026 be accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed accordingly.

**42.26 Clerk's report on matters arising since the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 7 May 2026**

- Website – currently still in the process of being overhauled so some information may be temporarily unavailable.
- Defibrillator – MedUK confirmed that the new defibrillator has been installed at the petrol station in Cross Houses.
- Arranged AED (Automated External Defibrillator) training. Rather than formal training sessions, drop-in sessions would take place between 1.00pm and 4.00pm on the afternoon of Wednesday 1 July and between 5.00pm and 8.00pm on the evening of Wednesday 8 July. These are free sessions at a variety of times/dates to accommodate differing parishioner availability and will take place in The Chapel Community Centre. A notice will be placed on the website.
- Emailed the Police and Crime Commissioner's Assistant, Tracey Onslow, to chase the request for a Community Speedwatch scheme. Also contacted the Safer Neighbourhood Team (Shrewsbury Rural East) to determine the legal implications of carrying out speed monitoring without the specific go-ahead (and training) from West Mercia Police. Awaiting a response from both.
- A very generous parishioner wishes to make an anonymous donation to fund an additional defibrillator in Cross Houses. Met with Jon Sharrock from Shropshire Homes to consider potential locations on the Berrington Meadows estate. The preferred site was identified as being at the far end of Ridout Road close to the proposed new development site.
- Advised by the National Trust that the lease on the field at Cross Houses has expired and that new heads of terms would be received in due course.
- The RoSPA playground inspection will take place this month.
- The "village gates" are expected to be installed in Cross Houses the week commencing 8 June.
- The minutes have been received from the Allotment Holders Group AGM and they will be published on the website.
- Noticeboard at Cross Houses petrol station is broken and needs replacing. It was agreed that a replacement can be purchased at a cost of approximately £150.

**ACTION:** Clerk to order a new noticeboard and arrange for installation.

**43.26 Shropshire Councillor's Report**

Councillor Coleman had sent her apologies and confirmed she had nothing to report since last meeting.

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

- Councillor Morris has contacted Greenbelt regarding the safety of the trees surrounding the playpark. Did not receive a response but within a week a contractor was cutting the grass and when spoken to he advised that he was a tree surgeon and would be doing a

survey on all the trees in the playpark, some of which were subject to Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs). Councillor Morris has asked Greenbelt to keep her updated on the outcome of the assessment. Has also spoken to Shropshire Homes regarding the sap-producing trees overhanging the carpark behind the first row of houses in The Chestnuts as you turn off the A458. They have agreed that the trees have become very large and need serious pruning.

- Councillor Eccles reported that Boreton Bridge will be closed from 27 July until 21 August to enable bridge repairs. Unfortunately, nothing is being done to protect the bridge from further damage occurring again. Councillor Coleman is still trying to get Shropshire Council to put in some protective measures.
- Councillor Rathbone reported that all the residents of Berrington village were invited to a meeting on 26 May with the Regional Head of the Church Conservation Trust. The church has been mothballed for a number of years but The Trust has now agreed for some major conservation work to take place as it is a site of significant historical interest, and they wanted to share the plans. The representative explained that they wanted to make it a “secular and religious community hub” inviting people to use the church for various activities. Scaffolding will be in place very shortly until around Christmas. With the local bishop’s permission, weddings and funerals (but not burials) may be held in the church once the conservation work is completed. There will be an offering of five religious services through the year such as Christmas, Easter, and harvest festival. There will be no changes to the churchyard as the authority of the Church Conservation Trust ends with the walls of the church.

#### 45.26 Current financial matters:

##### a) Payments

| Payee              | Description                         | Amount           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Ms R Yeomans       | Caretaker’s salary May              | £ 236.83         |
| Miss L Harris      | Clerk’s salary May                  | £ 688.82         |
| HMRC               | PAYE on Clerk’s salary May          | £ 172.00         |
| HMRC               | Employer National Insurance         | £ 66.57          |
| Miss L Harris      | Clerk’s expenses June               | £ 39.50          |
| EvaStore           | Secure document storage             | £ 109.97         |
| Shropshire Council | Joint energy cost – Q1 of 4         | £ 216.76         |
| E.ON               | Annual maintenance contract 2025/26 | £ 137.81         |
| MedUK Group        | Replacement AED – petrol station    | £ 978.00         |
| WaterPlus          | Monthly water charge - Chapel CC    | £ 33.04          |
| EE                 | Monthly WiFi charge – Chapel CC     | £ 41.38          |
| Talkmobile         | Monthly mobile ‘phone charge        | £ 7.95           |
| Lloyds Bank        | Monthly bank account charge         | £ 4.25           |
| HugoFox            | Monthly website fee                 | £ 23.99          |
| HugoFox            | Monthly email accounts fee          | £ 20.99          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       |                                     | <b>£ 2777.86</b> |

**It was proposed** by Councillor Carpenter and seconded by Councillor Eccles and  
**resolved (without opposition)**

that the above accounts be approved for payment.

##### b) Bank reconciliation to 28 May 2026

The bank was reconciled at £130,568.80, being the online banking balance on the

date the meeting agenda was prepared. The bank reconciliation was agreed and signed accordingly.

## **46.26 Planning**

### **1. Decisions to note**

#### **a. Ref: 26/00894/FUL**

Address: The Bell Inn Cross Houses Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6JJ

Description: Erection of part enclosed/part open timber framed pergola with festoon lighting and timber box planters to the rear of the Public House

Validated: 06 Mar 2026

Status: Granted

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

#### **b. Ref: 26/01540/AG1**

Address: Meadow Bank Farm Condover Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 7DB

Description: Erection of a new agricultural building to house livestock

Validated: 27 Apr 2026

Status: Planning Permission Required

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

#### **c. Ref: 26/01304/DIS**

Address: Proposed Solar Farm To The West of Berrington Shrewsbury Shropshire

Description: Discharge of conditions 13 (Construction Environment Management Plan), 25 (Drainage) and 26 (Sheep Grazing Scheme) on planning permission 22/04355/FUL

Validated: 08 Apr 2026

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

### **2. Planning applications for consideration**

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

Address: Cliff House Berrington Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6HL

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

Validated: 14 Jan 2026

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

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

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

Description: Variation of Section 106 Legal Obligation pursuant to S/90/227/61/90

and S/90/1102/61/90 to allow for an amendment to the discounted price

Validated: 17 Oct 2025

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

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

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

Description: Residential development for 55No. dwellings

Validated: 19 Sep 2025

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

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

**a. Ref: 26/01845/FUL**

Address: Meadow Bank Farm Condover Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 7DB

Description: Erect a livestock shed to house younger cattle

Validated: 04 June 2026

Status: Pending Consideration

Application can be viewed on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal, or by clicking [here](#)

No comments or objections were recorded.

**47.26 To consider the frequency of parish council meetings**

A full discussion took place on whether the Parish Council should reduce the number of meetings it convenes in a year (10), to bi-monthly meetings (6). The majority of parish councils in Shropshire meet bi-monthly and as the activity within the Parish ebbs and flows, but is currently in a quiet period, holding meetings every other month seemed the logical move, with extraordinary meetings being called if any time-critical issues arise.

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

**resolved (by a majority vote)**

that Berrington Parish Council would meet bi-monthly (January, March, May, July, September, and November) moving forward. The change would only be noticeable later in the year as July's meeting will take place as scheduled and there is never a meeting in August.

**48.26 Correspondence**

Nothing beyond what already mentioned.

**49.26 Future agenda items**

- To consider the situation regarding community benefit from the solar farm developers.

**50.26 Date of next meeting**

Thursday 2 July 2026, Chapel Community Centre, Cross Houses at 7.00pm.

The Chair thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed by Chair: .....

Date: 2 July 2026