

THE VILLAGE PUMP

October – November 2026

No. 185



A newsletter for Atcham, Berrington, Betton, Brompton, Cantlop, Cross Houses and Eaton Mascott



Berrington Parish Council

Atcham Parish Council

Website: www.berringtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk: Lisa Harris

Email: clerk@berringtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Members: Henry Carpenter (Chair)
Andrew Abbott
James Adney
Eric Brayne
Sharlene Hess
Charlotte Morris
Marcia Rathbone
Amy Yeomans
* Vacancy *

Meeting Dates: 7pm on 1st Thursday of every other month
Thursday 5th November 2026
Thursday 7th January 2027
Thursday 4th March 2027

Venue: Chapel Community Centre, Cross Houses

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BerringtonParishCouncil

Website: www.atchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk: Alison Utting

Email: clerk@atchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Members: Laura Dixon (Chair)
Stephen Cook
Cathy Ritchie
Gareth Jones
Martin Ruston
Rob Trow
Glen Perks

Meeting Dates: Usually 7:30pm on 2nd Wednesday every other month
Wednesday 18th November 2026
Wednesday 20th January 2027
Wednesday 17th March 2027

Venue: The Old Malthouse, Atcham

Facebook: www.facebook.com/atchampc

Please note whilst the above dates were correct at the time of publication, they are subject to change, with details provided on the Berrington or Atcham Parish Council websites and the agenda prior to each meeting.

The Village Pump

The Village Pump is published every two months and distributed to 700 households in the parishes of Atcham and Berrington. Our printing costs are met by income from advertising. Distribution is carried out by a team of volunteers. If you feel you could help your community by delivering the Pump in your area please contact the editor. The more volunteer deliverers we have the smaller the area to deliver.

Advertising rates are:

Full Page: £25 per edition or £110 per annum
1/2 Page (Landscape): £12.50 per edition or £55 per annum
1/4 Page (Portrait): £10 per edition or £45 per annum
1/4 Page (Landscape): £10 per edition or £45 per annum
1/8 Page (Landscape): £7.50 per edition or £30 per annum

**Deadline for submissions
for December edition:
20th November 2026**

If you represent a not-for-profit organisation or are organising a local event, we do not charge for advertisements in these cases.

Advertisements need to be paid for in advance. If you would like to place an advert in the Village Pump then please contact the Editor: thevillagepump@outlook.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

ADVERTISEMENT DISCLAIMER

Please note ACCEPTANCE OF ADVERTISEMENTS DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. THE EDITOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT ARTICLES IF SPACE IS LIMITED.

Do you have an idea for an article, would like an event or something of interest to be shared in the magazine? Then please contact the Editor, Andrew Abbott, at thevillagepump@outlook.com.

Cover photo: Berrington Church, © Andrew Abbott



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Planning continues to dominate the agendas in recent months. In Atcham, the proposal from West Midlands Ambulance Service to relocate the Ambulance Hub to land off Emstrey roundabout on the B4380 near Love 2 Stay has generated significant attention.

In Berrington Parish, a Planning Application was submitted in the late summer for a 3 MW solar farm near Bayston Hill Quarry, which Tarmac propose to use to supply electricity to the ongoing quarry operation (not to the grid). The proposal is close to the A5 dual carriageway on the edge of Shrewsbury, directly within a field with a public footpath through it.

In Berrington, residents will have noticed that scaffolding has come down on the church, which has had significant restoration work carried out. The future use of the building remains subject to confirmation.

I'm keen to hear ideas for the future of The Village Pump and would also like to engage with anyone interested in supporting the future of the magazine. Please email thevillagepump@outlook.com if you'd be interested in getting involved.

We are still looking for people to help with the delivery of The Village Pump; help is greatly appreciated.

Andrew Abbott

DO YOU HAVE AN EVENT TO PUBLICISE OR A STORY TO TELL?

We want to hear from you!

Please email article submissions or
event promotions to
thevillagepump@outlook.com.

*It could be local history, news, anecdotes, photographs,
events, gardening tips, obituaries, recognition of a good
deed... The Village Pump is your local forum!*



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Road Safety

Most of the recent road resurfacing and line-painting work has now been completed, although the council is still following up on the replacement of cats' eyes. Safety at Emstrey Bank remains a particular concern. The campaign for speed limit reductions is closely linked to the current and forthcoming planning applications for the Salop Leisure development and the proposed Ambulance Hub, and continues to be a high priority for the parish council.

New speed signs

The Parish Council agreed to purchase two new solar-powered radar speed indicator signs. The signs will provide driver feedback, warning speeding vehicles to slow down, and will also collect data on vehicle speeds. The council agreed to proceed provided the total cost is below the earmarked £6,000. The intention is to use existing posts where possible, subject to checks and agreement with Highways.

Residents' concerns

During the public participation session, residents raised several issues, including noise from outdoor and marquee events at the Mytton, and from National Trust film screenings. Residents said it would be helpful to have advance notice of events that could generate significant noise. The suggestion was made that the pub and National Trust could provide an annual programme of events which could then be shared through the village magazine, noticeboards and other local channels.

Residents also asked about weed growth in drains and the potential for flooding. This will be followed up with Shropshire Council. Other

issues highlighted for future consideration included replacing the village history interpretation board and damaged bollards, possible provision of dog waste bins, the need for a bleed kit, and road damage.

Parking Restrictions

The council discussed the effects of the parking restrictions introduced in July 2025. It was decided to wait for the outcome of the car park planning application before deciding whether changes are needed, allowing both the practical and financial implications to be assessed. If you have any input on this matter, please do contact us or come to one of our meetings.

Data on enforcement of the existing restrictions is also being sought.

Around the village

The National Trust has advised that environmental improvement works and woodland maintenance are scheduled over the coming months. Visits to Attingham will be for pre-booked visitors only during weekends and school holidays throughout December.

Posters promoting the Citymapper app, which provides information on bus and train services, will be put up on boards and in the bus shelter. Information also available via our website. The council is also planning a meeting to bring together interested parties to discuss matters relating to the River Severn.

Full minutes and more information can be found on our website.

The next parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th November 2026.

Do you have any comments? Or a new idea that might benefit the community? Please come along to one of our meetings or contact the Clerk. Don't forget to let us know if you have any community news that you would like us to share online. Photos of the village and surrounding countryside are also welcome, so if you snap a good view do send it to us.

Website: atchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Facebook: Atcham Parish Council

Parish Councillors: Laura Dixon (Chair), Stephen Cook, Gareth Jones, Martin Ruston, Rob Trow, Cathy Ritchie, Glen Perks

Clerk: Alison Utting 01691 622093 clerk@atchamparishcouncil.gov.uk



Interested in food-growing & permaculture?
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Within the context of a changing climate and spiralling impacts on food production, **Crabapple Community** offers space to explore food resilience and community connection as vital elements of conscious adaptation.

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Get in touch: crabapplecom@hotmail.com

ATCHAM VILLAGE HALL



(Atcham War Memorial Hall)

Available for hire for classes, meetings, parties and events

Contact the Booking Clerk:

atcham.villagehall@btinternet.com

Or telephone 07485 029331

Wordsearch

Witch Bats Ghost Skeleton
Pumpkin Trick Treat Zombie

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Sudoku

Complete the grid so that every row, column, diagonal and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 - 9 inclusive.

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		5	3		2	4		8
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	1	8	4			2		

New Ambulance Hub Proposed for Emstrey

Plans for a new Ambulance Hub and “Make Ready” facility at Emstrey were discussed prior to the Parish Council meeting on 9 September. Representatives of West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS), Opus Land and planning consultants Berrys attended to explain the plans and take questions.

The proposed facility would replace the existing Shrewsbury ambulance base, which is small, crowded and unable to accommodate additional vehicles. The new Hub would initially house the current fleet of around 30 ambulances, with capacity to increase this gradually to up to 52 vehicles, providing for anticipated needs over the next 30 years.

The project has received around £15 million in funding, but the money comes with a tight timetable. Work needs to start by March 2027, with the new facility operational by March 2028. A planning application is expected to be submitted in early October.

Although ambulances would be based at Emstrey, WMAS stressed that they would spend most of their time out responding to calls. Staggered shifts would mean crews and vehicles would not all arrive or leave at once. The site would also provide facilities for vehicle cleaning, maintenance and restocking, crew breaks, offices and electric-vehicle charging.

Traffic and road safety were key concerns. The scheme depends heavily on the proposed new roundabout serving the planned Salop Leisure development. WMAS is also strongly supporting a reduction in the speed limit in the area, ideally to 30mph.

Drainage, noise and construction impacts were also discussed.

For a full report of the meeting, please visit the Atcham Parish Council website (Minutes page).

Further info: <https://www.wmas.nhs.uk/new-ambulance-hub-shropshire/>



BETTON SOLAR FARM

Solar farm proposed to power Bayston Hill Quarry

Plans have been submitted for a new solar farm on land adjacent to Bayston Hill Quarry. The proposal, put forward by Tarmac Trading Ltd and Olympus Power Ltd, seeks permission for a ground-mounted solar photovoltaic array capable of generating around 3 megawatts (MW) of electricity, which would be supplied directly to the quarry via an underground cable.

The proposed site covers approximately 5.56 hectares on land immediately east of the quarry, between Bayston Hill and Betton Strange. The solar panels would occupy part of an existing pasture field and would be arranged in two sections, separated by a public footpath that crosses the site. The footpath would remain open and on its current route throughout the lifetime of the development.

According to the applicant, the scheme is intended to help reduce the quarry's reliance on electricity from non-renewable sources and support the decarbonisation of its operations. The solar installation would include panel arrays, transformers, battery and power conversion equipment, access tracks, security fencing and underground cabling connecting the site to the quarry.

Landscape assessments acknowledge that walkers using the footpath through the site would experience the greatest visual change, although the developers argue that wider visibility of the solar farm would be limited due to existing screening and landform.

The development is expected to operate for around 35 years, after which the panels and associated infrastructure would be removed and the land restored, unless a further planning permission is granted.

The planning application was considered by Berrington Parish Council at an extraordinary meeting on 8 September 2026.

The planning application, including all proposed plans and reports, was carefully reviewed, public opinion considered, and a resolution passed to **object** to the proposal on the grounds of the following material considerations:

- Detrimental effect on the landscape and visual impact
- Archaeological significance
- Loss of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land

The Parish Council is aware that this proposal is for a private wire and not a grid-connected solar farm and that the intention is for any electricity generated to be used to power quarrying activities. However, this has no bearing on the objection. In the event of permission being granted, the Parish Council will be seeking some form of community benefit from the developer to mitigate for the impact of the solar farm on those parishioners who will be directly affected by its creation.



Mechanic Hughes (John Hughes)

Contact: 07495 223999

Web: mechanichughes.co.uk



BERRINGTON CHURCH RESTORATION

Work has been going well on the restoration of All Saints Church in Berrington.

Scaffolding has now come down after large parts of the roof were replaced, and the team behind the project are confident the works will be completed in December.

Representatives from the Church Conservation Trust (CCT) met with people from the parish to discuss the future of St Andrew's Church in Berrington.

The CCT are keen that the church becomes an asset to be used by the community, and supported by residents in the parish.

One of the options discussed was 'champing' – overnight camping in the church with the help of candlelight.

Henry Carpenter



Above: Berrington Village Church. Credit: A Abbott

Sun 6 Dec
4pm

Severn Hospice,
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carols and readings
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LOCAL WALKS

1. Starting in Cross Houses, join the public right of way near the attenuation pond on the Berrington Meadows development and head south through the Leylandii trees and across the former railway line, ensuring you stick to the path in this section on private land.

5. Turn left at the lane and walk to the junction with the A458.

6. Walk along the verge of the A458 (take care with road traffic as this section is outside of the local speed limits).

7. Walk along the verge into Cross Houses – this section should be easier as the verge is periodically mown.

2. When you meet Church Lane, turn left and then immediately right. At this point, two private drives converge with a field track; ensure you take the left-most track (the one without gravel). Follow the path to the next field, go through the centre of the next field and through the stile in the gap in the hedge.

4. Follow the track away from Eaton Mascott (which in winter can be muddy), which gradually becomes less like a track and more like a field margin. At the grassy bottom, turn right into the woods. After a short woodland section, the path skirts the field margins.

3. Where the footpath meets the lane at Eaton Mascott, continue for ~10 metres before turning left onto the track.

Total distance: ~4.6 km (2.9 miles)

Approx. duration: 1 hour

Please follow the countryside code and keep dogs on a lead where requested.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Parish Paths Partnership

We are looking for volunteers to help clear vegetation, replace stiles with kissing gates, and maintain watercourse crossings such as board bridges.

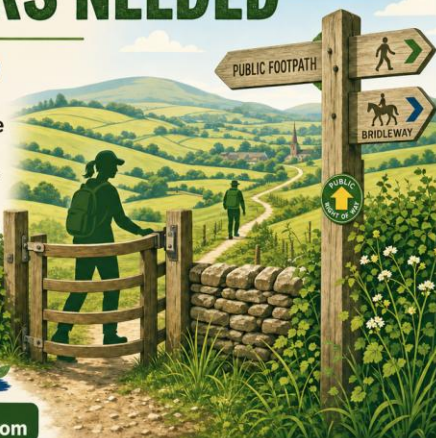


A community-based scheme supported by the county council, supplying tools, training, and financial help to keep local Public Rights of Way open, safe, and well-signed.

If you can help, please get involved.



PLEASE CONTACT US:
thevillagepump@outlook.com



Church Services and News from St. Eata's at Atcham

There is a Eucharist (BCP) every Sunday at 11am. Everyone is most welcome at this Service. Tea, coffee and cake is served on alternate Sundays.

Sunday 25th October – Service at 11am – Harvest Festival and Patronal Festival

Sunday 1st November - Service at 11am

Sunday 8th November - Service at 10.55 am Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 15th November - Service at 11am

Sunday 22nd November - Service at 11am

Sunday 29th November - Service at 11am

COFFEE MORNINGS – in Church on the 1st Friday of each month from 10.30am onwards. All are welcome to attend.

AND FINALLY congratulations to Rector Andrew Knight who was recently and deservedly installed as Prebendary in Lichfield Cathedral.



✠ Berrington with Betton Strange ✠ Church Preen ✠ Cressage ✠ Cound ✠ Easthope ✠

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

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References available upon request



Are you a Highways Maintenance Contractor?



Berrington Parish Council invites applications to fulfil the Environmental Maintenance Contract 2027-30

Running from 1 April 2027 to 31 March 2030, the contract will be awarded for 3 years. In the first instance, interested parties should email the Clerk on clerk@berringtonparishcouncil.gov.uk to obtain an application pack containing the Schedule of Works, together with the contract terms.

The works take place on public land and at the Chapel Community Centre and include grass mowing, strimming, hedge cutting, clearing of soil and debris from roadside grids and cleaning of road signs.

Complete and final quotes must be received by **Thursday 29 October 2026 at 5pm** by email to clerk@berringtonparishcouncil.gov.uk – any queries please contact the Clerk via email.

A decision will be made on the awarding of this contract at the meeting of Berrington Parish Council on Thursday 5 November 2026. The result will be announced later the following week.

In the interest of transparency and fair dealing, applicants must not canvass councillors as part of the application process. Any such instance will be reported to the Parish Council and will result in disqualification from the process.

EMMA J

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EmmaJhairstyling

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Cross Houses and we will have
some plots available for 2026.

Call Cameron on
01743 761443 for details.

Cound & District Crafters

Meetings are held on the first Monday of
each month at Cound Guildhall 10am -
12 noon. £5 per session, different crafts
each meeting.

Everyone is most welcome - new ideas
can be incorporated and tried so please
come along and join us.

Please contact Sue on 01743 761355 or
email sueshedden52@gmail.com for
more information.



BERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

New councillor welcomed to the council

The Parish Council welcomed a returning member following the filling of a vacant seat. Eric Brayne was formally co-opted after responding to an advertisement and meeting the eligibility requirements. His appointment brings the council closer to full strength and will help support ongoing work on local issues affecting residents across Berrington and Cross Houses.

Road safety monitoring on the A458

The Parish Council received an update following monitoring in Cross Houses by West Mercia Police's Road Safety Team. Data collected within the 30mph zone (at the old 30 mph signs located near Tudor Close) showed average speeds below enforcement thresholds, with a small proportion of drivers exceeding the limit.

The Assisant Police & Crime Commissioner said:

"Monitoring was with the use of a covert box fixed to a piece of street furniture such as a lamp post or road signpost in close proximity to the road being monitored. The equipment records vehicle speeds in both directions over a 24hr period for seven days and the speed data is then downloaded once the box has been retrieved.

"The mean speed was 23 mph and the 85th percentile speed was 26 mph – therefore both below the enforcement threshold. Of a total of 88383 vehicles recorded, only 0.8% were over the posted speed limit.

"As you would expect, there were vehicles that did exceed the speed limit during that week, but these were very much small in number and therefore it would not be appropriate to deploy enforcement resources from the Road Safety Team.

"Although this means that further enforcement will not be carried out, hopefully it provides some reassurance."

Community facilities and local environment

A replacement noticeboard has been installed near the petrol station, while discussions continue regarding the possible installation of a recycled-plastic bench at Berrington Meadows following an offer from an anonymous donor.

The council also resolved issues affecting litter bin collections at the playing field and arranged for two self-seeded ash saplings near the Community Centre to be removed.

Grounds maintenance and heritage

Preparations are under way for the next environmental maintenance contract, which will cover the period from 2027 onwards. Councillors reviewed and expanded the maintenance specification, including provision for churchyard strimming, before the work is put out to tender. Elsewhere, historic editions of The Village Pump have been digitised and made available online, improving public access to local community archives.

Berrington Parish Council continues to have one casual vacancy.

The next parish council meeting will be held on Thursday 5th November 2026.

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CROSS HOUSES

Lower Cross, 10:10 – 10:40

Friday 14th August & 28th August

Friday 11th September & 25th September

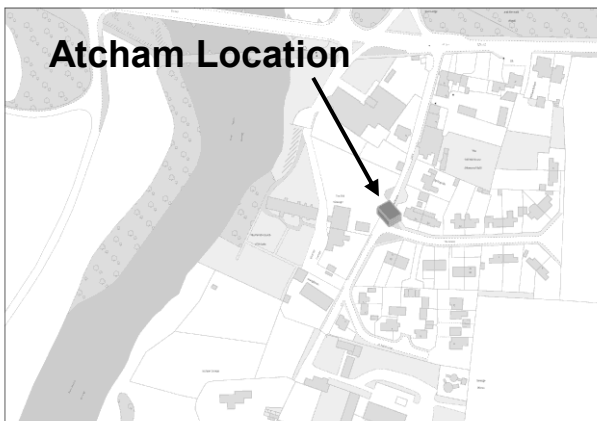
ATCHAM

By The Glebe, 13:20 – 13:35

Friday 14th August & 28th August

Friday 11th September & 25th September

Atcham Location



Cross Houses Location



CROSS HOUSES BOOK CLUB

Do you enjoy reading and would like to discuss your ideas and thoughts with like minded people - then please come and join our small, free, friendly and local book club.

For more information, please call Sue on **01743 761355** or email sueshedden52@gmail.com.

Reading List 2026

15th October – Come Sundown by Nora Roberts

19th November – When Breathe Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi

17th December – A Christmas Railway Mystery by Edward Marston

ADVERTISE IN THE PUMP

Want to see your business featured in The Village Pump? Get in touch – thevillagepump@outlook.com. Rates can be found on the inside cover on Page 2.

The Village Pump is widely read by people throughout the parishes of Atcham and Berrington and beyond – and unlike a social media advert which is passed in the flash of an idle scroll, not to mention your advertising money not staying local, people value The Pump and return to it time and time again... and your money is reinvested into the local community.



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COLUMN FLOWER CLUB

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Monthly Tuesday Meeting: 7pm - for 7.15pm start
Every 2nd Tuesday of the Month
(No Meetings in August)

Our evenings include Practical Sessions, Club
Demonstrations and Occasional Talks.

Pop along one evening to see us, everyone is made very
welcome. Visitors fee £5

Knowledge of flower arranging is not essential.
Between us we help each other and also learn from one
another.

For information about the club and events please visit our website
<https://www.columnflowerclubshrewsbury.co.uk>

OUND AND DISTRICT TENNIS CLUB



Come and join in our fun and social tennis
community

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/coundanddistricttennisclub>

or use our Cound and District Tennis Club Homepage QR Code



For membership enquiries please contact us at membership@coundanddistricttennisclub.com

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

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

Or find us on Facebook!



AUTUMN EVENTS

24th October – 1st November

Alderford Trick or Trail

A playful Halloween trail for younger explorers, Trick or Trail returns for families looking for a lighter, not-too-scary Halloween day out.

Follow the trail around Alderford Lake & through the woods, uncover hidden letters, solve the secret word & enjoy a magical outdoor adventure built for younger children & their grown-ups.

<https://alderford.com/trick-or-trail>

23rd October – 1st November

Pumpkinfest, Park Hall Farm

Every paying child will receive a free pumpkin to carve in the farm's huge pumpkin shed, which you can take home at the end of the day. Halloween activities include Pumpkin Alley, The Little Scare House and a Spooky Trail.

All usual farm activities are included in the ticket price, which includes indoor and outdoor play areas, barrel train rides, tractor rides, animals, trenches, planet room, and science area, creating a day of non-stop fun.

From 2nd October

Arscott Farm Pumpkin Picking

Arscott Farm has grown more than 100,000 pumpkins and are open for pumpkin picking once again. The snack shack will be open with hot and cold drinks, cakes and Halloween sweets, whilst fresh wood-fired pizzas will also be served alongside a visiting ice cream and dessert trailer.

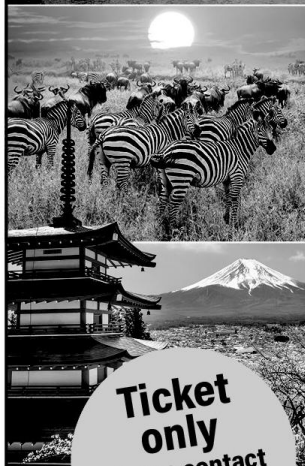
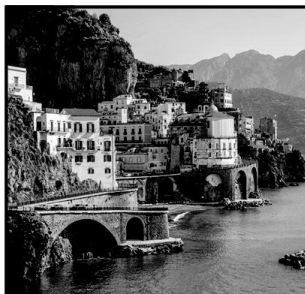
<https://www.facebook.com/arscottfarm/>

23rd October and 26th – 30th October

Little Wytheford Farm Pumpkin Patch

Pumpkin patch, wheelbarrows, shop, café, photo opportunities. Pumpkins start from 50 pence. We always aim to keep our prices as fair as we can.

<https://www.ticketsource.com/little-wytheford-farm>



Ticket only
Please contact us to book your place.

JOIN US AT OUR 2026 Travel Showcase

Sunday 8th November 2026, 12pm - 4pm

St Mary's Church, Shrewsbury, SY1 1DX

On Sunday, 8th November we will be bringing together trusted travel partners from the world of cruise, touring and adventure, along with our expert team, to offer you a day of luxury travel inspiration in the heart of Shrewsbury.

St Mary's Church in Shrewsbury will be transformed into a travel showcase for the day. You can soak up holiday ideas and sit down with experts to discuss future trips in more detail.

Places at the event are limited and must be booked in advance.

To book a place call us on **01743 233234** or email **sales@peakestravelelite.co.uk**



Our trusted Travel Partners from the World of Cruise, Touring and Adventure will be on hand to inspire you and discuss your travel plans for the future.

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We are a small group of very friendly ladies who meet on the third Monday of the month, 10am - 12 noon at the Community Room, Noel Hill Road for a chat and to make items for charity events which we run twice a year for local causes - everyone is welcome and you don't have to worry about ability - we are all different and learn from each other whilst having a laugh.

We welcome new members, please come along and join us.

For more information please contact Sue on 01743 761355 / 07773 161635 or email sueshedden52@gmail.com

CROSS HOUSES BIG CHRISTMAS FAIR
SUNDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 10.00AM-3.30PM
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CHRIST CHURCH C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL, CRESSAGE

Developing our future leaders

A Fantastic Start to the New School Year!

The new school year is already off to a wonderful start, with our Reception children settling in with great enthusiasm and excitement. In fact, it feels as though they have been part of our school family for years! They have quickly adapted to school life, building friendships, learning new routines and embracing every opportunity with confidence and smiles. Their new outdoor learning area has proved extremely popular and whatever the weather, they can be found creating, building, exploring and digging as they develop their curiosity and imagination through play.

Meanwhile, our Year 6 pupils are proudly wearing their long-awaited leavers' hoodies, which they wear throughout their final year at school. As the oldest children in the school, they are already demonstrating excellent leadership and responsibility. This year they will take on a variety of important roles, including Sports Leaders, Playground Games Leaders, House Captains and Vice Captains, Acorns' Buddies, Prayer Leaders and Environment Ambassadors.

We are incredibly proud of the positive example they are setting for younger pupils and look forward to seeing them flourish in their leadership roles throughout the year.

We wish all our children a happy, successful and exciting year ahead!

Emma Clarke, Acting Head of School

We have spaces in our Nursery for children who are 3 or over in the Summer Term or September.

We have a wonderful setting and accept 15 or 30 hour vouchers. As a school we are 'not for profit' which means we don't have lots of extra charges and you can use your hours flexibly. Please come and have a look at our nursery, Little Acorns and meet our staff and chat to us informally.

Would you like to visit us and see our friendly, village school?

You can ring the office: **01952 510383** and make an appointment to come and see school during the school day or afterwards. We love showing prospective parents around as we are very proud of our school.



Follow us on FaceBook for regular news and updates: @ChristChurchSY5

Our website is also full of updates and information:

christchurchcressage.co.uk

You can email us on admin@christchurch.shropshire.sch.uk



CHRIST CHURCH C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL, CRESSAGE

Over £1000 raised by our amazing school community!

We were delighted to hold our annual Colour Run at the start of the school year. Originally planned for the summer term, the event was postponed due to the hot weather, making it even more exciting to finally take place, despite the rain! Children arrived in sparkling white T-shirts, ready to tackle the hills of Cressage and the colourful paint showers waiting along the route. Following a lively whole-school warm-up led by our Young Leaders, the children set off with great enthusiasm, supported by Year 6 buddies and a wonderful team of family volunteers.

Laughter echoed around the course as runners dashed through clouds of colour, crossing the finish line a little wetter but much brighter than when they started. Reverend Sam also joined in the fun and embraced the event with great enthusiasm. Thanks to the incredible support of our families and wider community, we can now invest in several exciting improvements around the school.

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These include a new mud kitchen for Acorns Class, enhancements to Maple Class's outdoor learning environment and the creation of wildlife-friendly areas across the school grounds with new wildflower planting.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped organise the event, sponsored our runners, made donations or volunteered on the day. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community and are truly grateful for the fantastic amount raised. Your support continues to make a real difference to the opportunities and environments we can provide for our children.



News from your Shropshire Councillor Susan Coleman

Parish Councils are often where some really important local conversations happen, about planning, highways and community issues. September is a busy month with 7 parish Council meetings across Severn valley. I try to attend all of them: it is always good to see members of the public at these meetings. You don't need to be an expert on council business just come along, listen, ask a question if you would like to or find out what is being discussed.

Financial Situation

The financial situation at Shropshire Council continues to be of grave concern. You can read The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) External Assurance Review May 2026 online (https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6a7ed50f92ec93e1e03299c6/Shropshire_External_Assurance_Review_2026.pdf). This looks at our financial sustainability and risks. These matters will influence the level of Council Tax that you pay next year.

Highways and Planning

Please report potholes, faulty street lights, fly tipping, overspilling bins or other highways issues on Fix My Street (www.fixmystreet.com) or on the Shropshire Council website.

We have two large planning applications in Atcham: one for Salop Leisure and another about to be lodged for a new ambulance station hub, moving from its current site in Radbrook.

The Parish Council will comment on these to Support or Object as will I as the local councillor. Please have your say too.

Shropshire and Wrekin Fire Authority

The Open Days in August were another huge success this year. The wild fires this summer have taken a great toll on our fire service who have fought many across Shropshire as well as helping other services in Kidderminster and South Wales. We have several firefighters in our local community and I'm writing this on September 11th when of course we all remember the bravery of firefighters, police and all emergency services in New York on that terrible day.

Halloween

Whether you're heading out trick-or-treating, welcoming little witches and ghosts to your door, or simply enjoying a quiet night at home, have fun but remember that behind the scenes there are firefighters across our county ready to respond if they're needed.

Follow me on Facebook to see what else I'm doing as your Councillor and email me with any concerns that you have and I will try my best to help you.

Cllr Susan Coleman

Working hard for communities in the Severn Valley division of Shropshire Council

Email:

susan.coleman@shropshire.gov.uk

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/CllrSusanColeman

Phone:

07843 111539



The Chapel Community Centre

The Chestnuts, Cross Houses, Shrewsbury SY5 6JH



Hire Rates

(effective 1 October 2026)

Session	Hirer			
	Non-parish resident		Parish resident	
	One-off booking	Regular booking (weekly/monthly)	One-off booking	Regular booking (weekly/monthly)
Morning (09:00 – 13:00)	£ 50	£ 40	£ 40	£ 32
Afternoon (14:00 – 18:00)	£ 50	£ 40	£ 40	£ 32
Evening (19:00 – 23:00*)	£ 50	£ 40	£ 40	£ 32
Full day (09:00 – 23:00*)	£ 100	£ 80	£ 80	£ 64

*In accordance with the premises licence, The Chapel Community Centre must be vacated by midnight Monday-Saturday and by 23:00 on Sunday.

Bookings can be made for 2-hour sessions outside of the standard half/full day session times subject to consideration for other bookings. Flexibility with booking times will be offered whenever possible.

Session	Hirer			
	Non-parish resident		Parish resident	
	One-off booking	Regular booking (weekly/monthly)	One-off booking	Regular booking (weekly/monthly)
2-hour session (subject to availability)	£ 30	£ 25	£ 25	£ 20

Hire rates will be reviewed annually in September at which point the calendar for the following year will be opened up for bookings.

Book online at <https://hallbookingonline.com/chapel>

Email: chapel@berringtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Please read the terms and conditions for the end of session.



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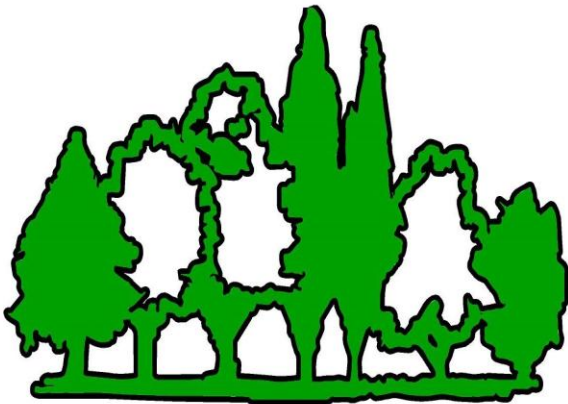


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MUCH WENLOCK & CRESSAGE MEDICAL PRACTICE

NHS Text Notifications

You can now view SMS Messages from the Practice in your NHS App.

To access messages on the NHS App please ensure you have Notifications for the App turned on.

For patients without NHS App access, you will receive SMS Messages as previously to the mobile phone number registered with the Practice.

PLEASE INFORM THE PRACTICE OF ANY CHANGES TO YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Do you have a Stoma?

The next meeting of the SE Shropshire Stoma Support Group will be on

Monday 9th November 2026 7:30pm at Much Wenlock Methodist Church Hall, King Street Much Wenlock, TF13 6BL

All who possess a stoma are invited, wherever you live in Shropshire. Come along and bring your partner or carer if you wish, to share your experiences with like-minded people. Refreshments provided.

Much Wenlock Medical Practice car park will be open for use for anyone attending the meeting.

Patients Voice Meeting

The next meeting of the Patient's Voice will be held on the 10th of November 2026.

If you have any items, you would like to be raised please contact the group secretary, Mr Nelson, at nelson@wroxeter.net or contact the Practice on 01952 726011 a week prior to the meeting. Please note the group cannot discuss specific complaints in this meeting. Please follow the Practice complaints procedure should you have any concerns to raise.

Advance warning of staff training afternoon

Staff training will take place on Wednesday 4th November 12:00 – 18:30. Cressage Surgery, including the dispensary, will be

closed for that afternoon, Much Wenlock surgery will remain open for urgent calls. 111/Health Hero will provide urgent medical care during this period.

Art on show

Local artist, L Rust, has kindly donated her painting, "The Sentinel", to the Practice. The painting is displayed in the clinical corridor at Much Wenlock. We would like to thank Mrs Rust for this very thoughtful donation.

National GP Survey Results:

To view the latest National GP Survey results for Much Wenlock & Cressage Medical Practice please visit <https://gp-patient.co.uk/>

Good luck to Dr Harvey and the rest of the team as they take on the World's Toughest Row, crossing the Atlantic Ocean to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation and Severn Hospice.

We wish you every success, fair winds, and a safe journey throughout this incredible challenge. Your determination and commitment to supporting such worthy causes is truly inspiring.

Everyone at the Practice will be cheering you on, and we look forward to welcoming you back to the Practice on your return. Best of luck to the whole team! 🏄♂️ 🌊 🏆

Congratulations to Dr Willdig who competed in the Wenlock Olympian Games and was the first female runner from Much Wenlock receiving the Jimmy Moore Memorial Plate. Dr Willdig is seen here also wearing the medals she won in two of the race categories.





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NATURE RECOVERY ON THE ATTINGHAM ESTATE

The following is an extract from the October edition of the Attingham Estate Autumn 2026 community newsletter.

This summer has seen the Attingham Nature Recovery Project focus on ecological surveying and dam building.

Our volunteers have been out surveying butterflies, bats, and reptiles as well as woodlands, grasslands, and hedgerows.

We led a couple very successful dragonfly training events in partnership with the British Dragonfly Society to help equip our wildlife surveying volunteers with the knowledge needed to head out and ID dragon and damselflies on our estate.

The hot summer months have seen a boom in both damselfly and dragonfly populations! We will continue to monitor a variety of wildlife until the end of autumn to better understand the quality of our habitats.

The dry weather has meant all our ditches have dried up, enabling us to jump in and keep building dams to restore a part of the Deer Park back to fen habitat. The dams will slow down the flow of water which will soak into the surrounding land and help native wetland floral species come back.

By holding back water we're also reducing the rate at which it discharges into the River Tern at peak flood periods, helping alleviate the effects of flooding downstream of both the Tern and the Severn. We will keep up this work until our rainy season comes back and it becomes too wet for us to safely work in the watercourses.

We did feature in a BBC Shropshire article and radio interview which focused on spreading the message of the Attingham Nature Recovery Project is achieving!

The Severn Valley Water Management Scheme (SVWMS) has enabled us to take on pond restoration which began last year. All ponds restored last winter are currently holding water, which is incredible to see after so many months of dry weather. We have also recorded more wetland species around these ponds than we ever noticed before.

Alongside pond restoration, the SVWMS has also allowed us to take on larger scale wetland restoration. We are currently undertaking works on the estate to help restore wetland habitats in an old River Severn channel which has become silted up with centuries worth of floods.

By excavating this silt, we hope to increase the water holding capacity of the land throughout the drier months and sustain a more consistent wetland habitat throughout the year.



Works being undertaken on the wider estate to restore an old wetland



Natural dam built in the Deer Park / Photo by Emilia Fahlstromova



UPCOMING ROADWORKS / POINTS TO NOTE

When? 25th – 26th November (20:00 – 05:00)

Where? A5 both directions Emstrey roundabout to Dobbies roundabout

Why? Lane closure for maintenance works

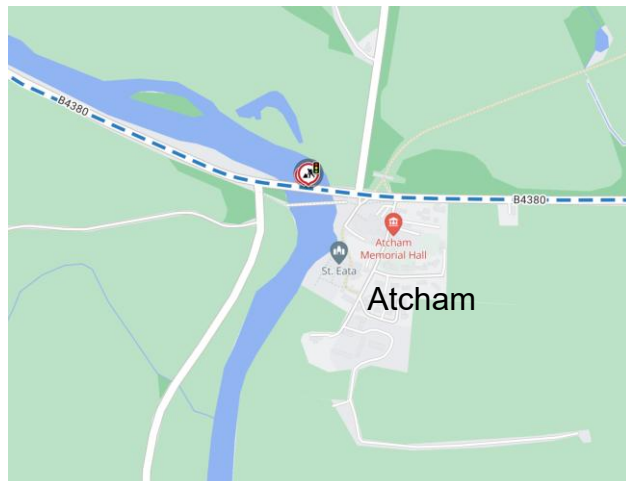
Reference: NOMS-527093

When? 23rd October

Where? Atcham (B4380) Bridge

Why? Highway Improvement Work

Reference: UJ215BR-1510675-01



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Cressage Surgery	01952 511166	Samaritans	01743 369696
Marden Surgery	01743 241313	Shropshire Council	0345 678 9000
Riverside Surgery	01743 367891	Severn Trent Water	0800 783 4444
Shrewsbury Police Station	0300 333 3000	Shropshire Home Point	0300 303 8595
Bromford Housing Association	0330 1234 034	Shrewsbury Dial-a-Ride	01743 450350
Homes Plus	0800 048 8955	Shropshire Highways	0345 678 9006
Councillor Susan Coleman	07843 111539	Bins & Recycling (missed collections)	0345 678 9007
Citizens Advice Bureau	0808 278 7894	Royal Shrewsbury Hospital	01743 261000
Age UK	01743 233123	Princess Royal Hospital, Telford	01952 641222
Domestic Abuse Helpline	0808 2000 247	National Grid (Emergency)	0800 6783 105
Cruse Bereavement Care	0808 808 1677	National Grid	0800 096 3080
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	RSPCA (Cruelty Hotline)	0300 1234 999
Gas Emergency Services	0800 111 999	Floodline	0345 988 1188
National Rail Enquiries	03457 484950	Dog Fouling (Reporting) – Longden Road Depot	0345 678 9006



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