

# BERRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Henry Carpenter  
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Clerk: Lorna Pardoe  
Clerk@berringtonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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## MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on 8 April 2026 at Chapel Community Centre, Cross Houses

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

**Clerk:** Lorna Pardoe

**Also present:** Lisa Harris (minute taker) and 4 members of the public

### 01.26 Chair's welcome

The Chair welcomed all present to the April meeting of Berrington Parish Council.

### 02.26 Chair to welcome new clerk

Councillor Carpenter introduced all present to the new clerk. Lisa Harris is an experienced clerk who commenced in post on 1 April and will be working alongside the current clerk until Lorna Pardoe retires on 30 April.

### 03.26 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor C Morris.

### 04.26 Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None

### 05.26 Council to agree the minutes of the March 2026 meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated.

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

that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 March 2026 be accepted as a true record. The minutes were signed accordingly.

### 06.26 Public Session

No update was available on the Community Speedwatch scheme. However, Councillor Carpenter reported on a recent site visit which had taken place with the (West Mercia) Police and Crime Commissioner's Assistant, Tracey Onslow. She had been shown the level of traffic through Cross Houses and at Cantlop Cross and agreed that it was significant. The overall impression gained was that there isn't much more that can be done about the situation although she offered an assurance that she would chase Shropshire Council regarding the installation of the VAS that the Parish Council are purchasing.

Cameron Moffett gave an update on the flooding at Upper Brompton: had spoken with the tenant farmer of the affected area and once seed sowing had been completed, he would be using a digger to further investigate the damp patches.

## 07.26 Shropshire Councillor's Report

Councillor Coleman had no major updates. As we have now entered a new financial year with hopefully replenished coffers, she would be banging on doors regarding highways issues.

Despite being a statutory duty, weekly food waste collections have not be introduced across the Shropshire Council area from 1 April 2026. While the Government has provided just over £3.6 million, its most recent financial settlement did not include adequate ongoing revenue funding to run a weekly food waste collection service. Therefore, introducing the service over such a large rural area would place a significant financial risk on Shropshire Council at a time when it is already facing unprecedented pressure on existing essential services. A paper will be presented to Cabinet on 15 April, setting out the current position and recommending the next steps required to introduce a food waste collection service at a later date. Over 50 councils across England have confirmed they will also miss the 1 April deadline for introducing weekly food waste collections.

## 08.26 Planning Matters

### 1. Decisions to note

#### a. Ref: 25/04684/DIS

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

Description: Discharge of Conditions 13 (CEMP), 16 (LEMP), 17 (Soft Landscape Scheme), 18 (Landscape Maintenance Plan), 20 (Bat and Bird Boxes), 22 (Skylark Mitigation Strategy), 23 (Programme of Archaeological Work), 24 (Soakaway Test), 25 (Sustainable Drainage Scheme) and 27 (Soil Management Plan) on Planning Permission 22/04355/FUL (Allowed on Appeal – APP/L3245/W/23/3332543)

Validated: 12 Dec 2025

Status: Part Approved Part Refused

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

#### b. Ref: 26/00325/LBC

Address: 1 Russell Place Cross Houses Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6EY

Description: Repair and refurbish eight existing timber sash windows. Replace existing glazing with vacuum glazed slimline heritage equivalents.

Validated: 6 Feb 2026

Status: Granted

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

### 2. Planning applications for consideration

#### 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: Pending Consideration

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

[here](#)

**b. 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](#)

**c. 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](#)

**d. 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: 26/01136/AG1**

Address: Betton Abbots Farm Betton Abbots Shrewsbury Shropshire SY5 6JD

Description: Proposed Erection of General Purpose Agricultural Building

Validated: 24 Mar 2026

Status: Pending Consideration

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

Applications 25/04876/FUL, 25/03909/VRA106, and 25/02751/FUL had been considered at previous meetings. No comment or objection was raised in relation to 26/01136/AG1. It was agreed that the Parish Council would support application 26/00894/FUL as the proposed works at The Bell Inn would be beneficial to patrons of this community asset.

**ACTION:** Clerk to add a comment of support on Shropshire Council's Planning Portal in respect of 26/00894/FUL.

**09.26 Report on state of readiness of defibrillator. Council to discuss the future of the defibrillator at the petrol station.**

The Clerk confirmed that all defibrillators within the Parish are ready to use as and when required.

The Clerk presented options relating to repair/replacement of the aging defibrillator sited at the petrol station in Cross Houses.

**It was agreed (without opposition)** that a new defibrillator would be purchased from MedUK at a cost of approximately £650.

**ACTION:** Clerk to order the new defibrillator.

**10.26 Chair to report on meeting with Police and Crime Commissioner's Assistant**

Already covered at 06.26

**11.26 Progress report on items from previous meetings:**

- **VAS**

Already covered at 06.26

- **Village gateways**

The Clerk reported that the gateways had been ordered on 6 March but that there was a lead time of several months.

- **Footpath – Cantlop Mill**

A full discussion took place regarding this matter. Councillor Eccles suggested that this could be added to the updated Community Vision (

- **Speeding through Cantlop Cross**

Already covered at 06.26

**12.26 Clerk's report to cover items not on the agenda**

The Parish Council is in possession of a number of important historical documents including deeds, which require secure storage. The current clerk has kept them in a locked filing cabinet in her home during her tenure, but the incoming clerk does not feel her home offers sufficient protection. A secure document storage facility has been identified in Oswestry. The company would collect a box of documents and store them at their facility in a secure vault which is protected by specialist fire detection, security alarm systems and an automatic fire suppression system, at a cost of £2.75 per month.

**It was agreed (without opposition)** that the Parish Council would store its deeds with EvaStore Document Management.

**ACTION:** Clerk to arrange for EvaStore to collect the boxed deeds.

**13.26 Highway Matters**

- Councillor Abbot reported that a repair to a pothole on the A458 near the petrol station had been carried out to a very poor standard.
- Councillor Eccles had been in touch with the Bridges and Structures Engineer at Shropshire Council about the significant damage which has occurred to Boretton Bridge over the past 18 months. At one time there had apparently been the intention to build another bridge at this location as the existing one is no longer fit for purpose. However, such a plan no longer exists.

**ACTION:** Councillor Eccles to go back to the Bridges and Structures Engineer with a request for a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) in an attempt to restrict traffic movement over the bridge.

- The Community Vision document was discussed and updated as follows:

**Critical Strategic**

- Improvements to the road through Cross Houses to include gateway entrance to the village. Additional Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS).

**Priority – Local Strategic**

- Footpath/cycle path to Atcham
- Footpath/cycle path to Shrewsbury
- Legal highway at Cantlop Milll to be reinstated

**Key Community**

- Renewal of fencing around the open space
- Improved parking in Noel Hill Road and garage area improvements in conjunction with Homes Plus. Adding light to garaging areas.

**14.26 Financial Matters**

- **Parish Council to agree payment of monthly invoices as presented by the Clerk**

Payee	Description	Amount
Mrs L Pardoe	Clerk's salary March (inc 30 hours overtime)	£1,210.51
HMRC	PAYE on Clerk's salary March	£ 280.00
HMRC	Employer National Insurance	£ 161.03
Mrs L Pardoe	Clerk's expenses March	£ 262.50
Ms R Yeomans	Caretaker's salary March	£ 227.52
Mrs J Griffiths	Internal Audit Fee	£ 100.00
SJF Design & Print	Printing of Village Pump newsletters	£ 350.00
Lloyds Bank	Monthly bank account charge	£ 4.25
DM Payroll Services	Administration of payroll 2026/27	£ 144.00
The Defib Pad	Replacement electrode pads	£ 79.15
HugoFox	Monthly website fee	£ 23.99
HugoFox	Monthly email accounts fee	£ 20.99
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£2,863.94</b>

- **Parish Council to accept the monthly bank reconciliation as presented by the Clerk**

The Parish Council approved the monthly bank reconciliation and it was signed accordingly by the Chair and the Clerk/RFO.

- **Parish Council to accept the year end accounts**

The Parish Council approved the year end bank reconciliation as prepared by the Clerk and checked by the Internal Auditor.

- **Parish Council to accept the Internal Audit Report**

The Parish Council approved the Internal Audit Report.

- **Parish Council to agree Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 (AGAR)**

The Parish Council considered the Annual Governance Statement and the Chair and the

Clerk/RFO signed the statement as approved.

- **Parish Council to agree Summary Accounting Statements (AGAR)**

**It was agreed (without opposition)** to confirm the accuracy of the accounting statements. The Chair signed the Summary Accounting Statements in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return as approved.

**15.26 Parish Matters**

- Councillor Biggs – retiring from the Parish Council and the May meeting will be the last he will attend.
- Councillor Rathbone – groundworks at Berrington pump due to start imminently. An update will be put in the next issue of the Village Pump.
- Councillor Hess – in Councillor Morris’ absence read out a concern from residents of The Chestnuts regarding sap-producing trees which are preventing the safe use of a number of parking spaces due to potential damage to cars.

**ACTION:** Clerk to contact Shropshire Homes to request pruning/crown reductions of the trees in question.

**16.26 Date of next meeting**

Thursday 7 May 2026, Chapel Community Centre, Cross Houses at 6.30pm – Annual Parish Meeting followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting

The Chairman thanked everybody for attending and the meeting closed at 8.18pm.

Signed by Chairman: ..... Date: 7 May 2026