

Baschurch Life Water Matters



Photo: River Perry by John Hayne

Come to a meeting on water quality in Baschurch Parish Baschurch Village Hall Wednesday, September 11th at 7.00

Are you concerned about the deteriorating state of the waterways?

The streams and rivers that run through Baschurch are in a particularly poor state. In the 2019 Environment Agency measure of water quality in the River Perry was rated as poor to moderate in biological status and failed in chemical status. Regrettably the condition of the water quality has, based on monitoring by groups further upstream, become worse.

Are you interested in being part of the solution?

Local knowledge and local pressure is important in raising awareness as to the water quality in our area; a strong local voice is vital in pressing for improvements. At the meeting we will consider the following:

1. building a local data bank through monitoring and observation
2. promoting healthy water practices for individuals, households and businesses
3. holding water companies to account regarding spillage and ensure waste water is managed properly
4. pressing local and central government to be more pro-active in ensuring our waterways are running cleanly.

Are you concerned about the environment?

Improving the quality of our waterways will have a positive effect for biodiversity in our parish. It will also have the effect of improving the quality of water downstream, including the River Severn.

Interested? We look forward to seeing you at the Water Matters Meeting on 11/9/24 at 7pm at BVH.

Wendy Lodwick Lowdon, wendylodwick@hotmail.co.uk
Robert Jones, Simon Hey

Keith Davies writes:

'I have lived in Baschurch for 60 years and my family for over 100 years. I am very proud of the village but I am very upset at the state of the access to the River Perry. When I grew up you could fish and swim there and spend all day down there as a lot of people did. Now it all overgrown and no asset to the village.'

Pressurise Severn Trent to stop dumping sewage into our rivers and brooks

Report any discharge or spills to the Environment Agency 0800807060

Write to your North Shropshire MP Helen Morgan helen.morgan@parliament.uk or North Shropshire, House of Commons. London SW1 0AA

Write to your Parish Council and your North Shropshire Councillor
www.shopshire.gov.uk/committee-services/mgFindMember.aspx

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River Perry - Wikipedia

Water Quality

The Environment Agency measure water quality of the river systems in England. Each is given an overall ecological status, which may be one of five levels: high, good, moderate, poor and bad. There are several components that are used to determine this, including biological status, which looks at the quantity and varieties of invertebrates, angiosperms and fish. Chemical status, which compares the concentrations of various chemicals against known safe concentrations, is rated good or fail.^[16]

The water quality of the Perry and its tributaries was as follows in 2019.

Section	Ecological Status	Chemical Status	Length	Catchment
Perry - source to conf Common Bk ^[17]	Moderate	Fail	4.8 miles (7.7 km)	14.94 square miles (38.7 km ²)
Common Bk - source to conf R Perry ^[18]	Poor	Fail	1.7 miles (2.7 km)	2.31 square miles (6.0 km ²)
Perry from Common Bk to Tetchill Bk ^[19]	Moderate	Fail	3.2 miles (5.1 km)	7.60 square miles (19.7 km ²)
Tetchill Bk from source to River Perry ^[20]	Poor	Fail	5.3 miles (8.5 km)	9.67 square miles (25.0 km ²)
War Bk from source to River Perry ^[21]	Poor	Fail	4.6 miles (7.4 km)	8.64 square miles (22.4 km ²)
Perry from Tetchill Bk to River Severn ^[22]	Moderate	Fail	12.6 miles (20.3 km)	19.95 square miles (51.7 km ²)

Reasons for the ecological status being less than good include nutrients entering the river for agricultural land over most of the river system, with sewage discharge and physical modification of the channel affecting some parts. Like most rivers in the UK, the chemical status changed from good to fail in 2019, due to the presence of polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) which had not previously been included in the assessment.^[23]

Milling

Location of the River Perry

