

Community News

November 2026



Community Association secures a warm future



There was great excitement in the village this week as **Jubilee Hall secured a lottery grant** to fund a new round of improvements, ensuring that the cherished community building remains fit for purpose for many years to come. The biggest news is that the funding will allow the completion of the installation of the Hall's new radiators. This comes after the previous heating system was unceremoniously condemned, leaving many to wonder whether attending events in winter should require thermal underwear and survival training. Thankfully, warmer times are now on the horizon, and future users of the Hall can look forward to comfort rather than frostbite. The latest grant

builds upon a series of significant improvements already completed. Visitors may have noticed the freshly painted roof, helping to keep the building looking smart while protecting it from the elements. New loft insulation has also been installed, keeping valuable heat where it belongs, and new guttering has been fitted to ensure rainwater ends up where nature intended rather than finding creative ways into the building. A special mention must go to our local volunteers Gavin Robbins, Andy Doughty and Barry Mannagh, who generously gave their time and energy to complete the guttering works. Their efforts were enthusiastically supervised by Betsy the dog, whose contribution consisted mainly of morale boosting, and ensuring nobody's sandwiches were left unattended. Pete Clifton's loan of some hay bales provided some much-needed access equipment for the guttering project. While not perhaps the method featured in official construction manuals, the hay-bale solution proved remarkably effective and may yet inspire a new chapter in rural engineering.

The grant award would not have been possible without the determination and hard work of **Debbie Hatfield** who was instrumental in securing the funding. Debbie spent countless hours researching, compiling evidence, completing forms and pulling together the grant application. Anyone who has ever tackled a funding application will know that this achievement required considerable patience, persistence and probably more cups of tea than anyone should reasonably consume.

The CECA Committee remain committed to maintaining and improving Jubilee Hall so that it continues to benefit the whole community.

Please email childsercallca@gmail.com should you have any enquiries about hiring of the hall.

In and around....

Beware the Return of the Pothole!

The parish's most persistent residents are back... and this time they're hiding in plain sight. The parish potholes have staged their annual comeback tour. Like unwelcome guests who overstay their welcome and then invite their friends, these road-surface craters have once again begun appearing across our highways. There is, however, some encouraging news. The infamous crater on Eaton Road has finally been repaired. While opinions may vary as to whether it has been "fully repaired", or merely "camouflaged with tarmac", it is now in a condition that allows motorists to navigate the road without requiring specialist survival equipment, or a signed waiver from their insurance company. The recent wet weather means that many potholes no longer announce themselves proudly as gaping chasms in the road. They are now masquerading as innocent-looking puddles. What may appear to be a modest puddle could be a geological feature large enough to have its own postcode. Motorists are advised to proceed with extreme caution. Please report any potholes or road defects as soon as they are spotted. So, if you encounter a pothole, a suspicious puddle, a developing crater or anything that causes your vehicle to briefly experience weightlessness, please take a moment to report it via [FixMyStreet.com](https://www.fixmystreet.com)

A message from Neil, (Unitary Councillor, Cheswardine Ward)



Autumn has arrived so now is the time to get winter ready. The highways teams at Shropshire Council have spent the summer focused on blocked gullies and ditches because we know that these can often be the cause of pothole problems especially on our rural roads. Please do keep registering any issues via [FixMyStreet.com](https://www.fixmystreet.com). I have been chasing updates regarding the average speed camera project for the A41 because like all residents, I share the frustration around this. However, I can confirm that the plans and engineering suggestions are now with the Police to review as they will be the overall enforcement authority. Over the summer the first stage of the council restructure was completed, starting with CEO Tanya Miles and the executive team, then working through Directors, Officers and departments. It is no secret that we have had to borrow money to invest in people, but that investment has been recognised by Government as an essential part of our recovery and growth. Putting the right people in the right jobs means there is a clear line of accountability and that we all get the best value for our council tax. We are all living in tough financial times, but the council is here to help. Working with partners, we have produced a comprehensive list of contacts covering a range of financial problems, you can find it at www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/shropshire.

Have Your Say

The next Parish Council meeting will be at the Jubilee Hall on Wednesday 18th November at 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend.

An on-line version of this newsletter can be found on the website. (www.childsercall-pc.gov.uk)
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