



Keeping YOU Informed

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council's Local Newsletter

Issue 16 - June 2013

Hello and welcome....

.....to the first newsletter from your 'new' Parish Council. The 'old' Parish Council served for somewhat longer than usual due to the dates being moved because of the establishment of the Unitary Shropshire Council. However, to form the Parish Council an election was not necessary as there were no other candidates than those existing seven Parish Councillors who chose to put themselves forward. This now means that Welshampton ward is under-represented by two Councillors and so we now move forward to a co-opting situation, and there is more about this in the article herewith. You will recall that in the last newsletter we explained that the precept for the year 2013/14 was being increased by a sum of money to cover the cost of an election, in the event of one being necessary. As suggested before, this money is now being held in the Parish Council reserves account for the Councillors to decide in due course what course of action to take.

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a copy of the Annual Parish Report 2012/13 in which you will read that Richard Hall decided not to stand again as a Councillor and so on behalf of the community, we thank Richard for his significant contribution to the Parish Council during the 15 years he has represented Welshampton.

At the first Parish Council meeting held after the start of the new term, the Councillors voted for me to continue as Chairman, which I am happy and privileged to be, but did point out that it really is time for someone else to step forward!

I hope you find that this newsletter achieves its objective ofkeeping you informed.

Chris Symes.

St Michael and All Angels 150th Anniversary Celebrations

We have a lot to celebrate in Welshampton this month, centred on the 150th Anniversary of our church in 1863.

The celebrations start on Monday 17th at 7pm, when Chris Jobson will be giving an inspiring illustrated talk on the building of Welshampton Church and its wonderful interior. This will actually take place in the church, so that we will be able to appreciate its uniqueness. Refreshments will follow afterwards in the church.

Then, on Sunday 23rd June, a special Thanksgiving Service to mark the church's Consecration will take place at 3pm, and we are delighted that the Bishop of Shrewsbury will be in attendance.

The service will be followed by a shared Tea at the Parish Hall. Everyone is warmly welcomed — lets make it a day to remember.

A contribution to the tea table will be much appreciated.

Glo Wright.

Help create a Welshampton calendar!

As part of the Celebrations we are printing a calendar for the village which I hope everyone will enter with a photograph of people, places or past events to make a very interesting calendar of village life.

Please encourage all members of the family to take part; 5 to 7 years old may prefer to enter a drawing. We would like the entries to be in by 23 June so that they can be on display at the Celebration Tea. Don't worry if you can't make that date, we will accept late entries up to the end of July.

We need many entries so we can have 3 or 4 photos per month. You must include a note with your name, age (if under 16 years of age) and address. Contributions can be left at the school, the church, The Sun Inn or with any church member.

For more information contact me on 01948 710242.

Beth Marsh.



Community Champions

Now that Spring has finally arrived it may be easy to forget the prolonged snow, ice, extreme cold and flooding of this past winter. Shropshire Council (together with other agencies such as NHS, Age UK, Shropshire Rural Community Council, Keep Shropshire Warm and the Department of Health) is encouraging local residents to become **Community Champions** who will act as a first point of contact to help out older and vulnerable people in their community.

This may involve monitoring weather reports (with advance warning of severe conditions given by Shropshire Council) and ensuring that the person you are concerned about has enough food, oil, topped-up electricity card, warm clothes, has remembered to collect prescriptions, etc. to get through a prolonged period of adverse weather. Practical help like snow-clearing and regular checks by phone or in person may also be needed.

If you are interested in helping with this valuable community service please contact the Parish Clerk on 01948 710672 or email: welshamptonandlynealpc@hotmail.co.uk.

Meeting Dates

Council Meetings

Wednesday 26 June	7pm
Wednesday 24 July	7pm
Wednesday 28 August	7pm
Wednesday 25 September	7pm
Wednesday 23 October	7pm
Wednesday 27 November	7pm
Wednesday 18 December	7pm

All meetings are in the Parish Hall

Are you willing to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor ?

In the recent local council elections on 2 May 2013 no poll was held in Welshampton and Lyneal Parish because only 7 nominations were received for the 9 vacant Parish Councillor positions. Ruth Evans, Peter Gee, Caroline Hamilton and Sarah Jefferies for Welshampton Ward and Lawrence Houghton MBE, Chris Symes and Martin Withington for Lyneal Ward were elected unopposed.

Therefore the Parish Council needs to fill the remaining 2 positions for Welshampton Ward by co-option. This means that, rather than the electorate voting for a Councillor, the Parish Councillors will vote as individuals for the candidate they believe will fulfil the role to the benefit of the

community.

Candidates will still have to meet the legal qualifications and any person interested should apply in writing to the Clerk expressing their formal interest in the position. It is recommended that the letter includes a short personal background and explains why they have applied to become a Councillor.

Prospective candidates should note that the term of office is to 2017, the date of the next round of Ordinary Parish Council elections. The deadline for applications is Friday 19 July 2013.

Further information is available from the Parish Clerk.

Distraction Burglaries

In the last few weeks a resident in Cockshutt was the victim of a 'distraction burglary'. This type of crime is very distressing to the victim and some can take a long time to recover confidence in answering the door to strangers.

As a reminder, it is not always someone pretending to be 'from the Electricity Company'. It can be someone asking for your help – needing to make a telephone call, losing a ball in your garden, needing a drink or pen and paper for example. The best advice is to assist them through a closed door or alternatively, call a friend or neighbour to come and assist.

Distraction burglars often work in teams, where one will distract you while the other looks for wallets, purses etc. Remember, don't keep large quantities of cash at home, always put it in the bank where it is safe.

Finally, if you're not sure who is at your door, don't open it.

Update on Connecting Shropshire Project

On Friday 31 May, Shropshire Council, BT and BDUK (Broadband Delivery UK, part of the Dept Culture, Media and Support) formally launched the project to deliver superfast broadband (defined as next generation access (NGA) with speeds in excess of 24Mbps) to 93% of properties in Shropshire. The remaining 7% will receive a minimum of 2Mbps. The whole project will be delivered by Spring 2016.

The project comprises of 9 Phases with work already started on Phase 1. The initial phases will cover assessing the existing network, agreeing and planning when new equipment will be placed inside exchanges, planning where the new fibre optic cables, cabinets and over ground equipment will go. To keep up to date with the project visit: www.connectingshropshire.co.uk

Welshampton Parish Hall

Some good news! At the March Local Joint Committee Meeting the Parish Hall Committee were successful with their Grant Application and have received just over £1,300 towards new curtains and blinds for the Hall. Then, in May Ellesmere Round Table donated £250 towards the replacement of the Boiler. The Committee is aware that the Boiler needs replacing urgently and this will be done within the next couple of months. This is only the start of a programme of replacements and repairs the Committee is keen to carry out. To make sure the plan covers everything you, the hirers and users of the Hall consider important, there is a survey enclosed with the newsletter. **Please take 5 minutes to complete it and take it to one of the many collection points.**

Some sad news.... due to increasing work commitments, both John and Rachel Pittaway have had to stand down from the

Committee and the roles of Secretary and Treasurer. The Committee, and we are sure, all regular hirers of the hall, thank both John and Rachel for the time and commitment they have given to the community. This means there are spare places on the Committee — if you would like to be involved please contact the Chair, Caroline Hamilton, on 01948 710407.

To end on some more good news, by the time you receive this newsletter, the Sports Court's refurbishment will nearly be completed. The Parish Council will be providing new equipment so by the end of the summer it will be a facility to be proud of again.

The Parish Hall Management Committee

PS Don't forget to watch the boards outside the Hall for the latest events!

Shropshire Council's new Road Safety Policy

In February this year, Shropshire Council approved a new Road Safety Policy. This replaces a number of policies and also involves town and parish councils in a more active way.

In summary, the new policy will result in

- An annual programme of schemes rather than a defined lists of schemes for forthcoming years;
- More flexibility for appropriate measures on a site by site basis;
- A consistent approach county-wide;
- A requirement to demonstrate community support; and
- The opportunity to use local funding.

The key change is that parish councils can now suggest schemes providing they have the support of the community. Councils will have the opportunity to submit up to 5 road safety concerns, 3 times a year to Shropshire Council.

Do you have concern about road safety in the Parish? Please let a Councillor or the Clerk know! Recently, a resident brought the Parish Council's attention to the area at Sansaw Cottages, Newton and this is being investigated.

Your Parish Council will also be reviewing those roads which it has previously brought to Shropshire Council's attention and ensure they are on the 'list' for consideration.

Rural Health Survey

As we live in small rural communities and "out in the sticks", make a difference and take part in Shropshire's Rural Health Survey. Representatives from GPs across Shropshire, the Council and other bodies representing rural interests, such as the Country Land and Business Association (CLA), are seeking views from people who live in rural areas in Shropshire to help to improve and develop the things that affect you. In particular, we want to hear about your quality of life and the things that have affected your quality of life.

The results will be used for further research and analysis to help to make a positive difference to the lives of people living in rural areas in Shropshire.

To take part online, here is the link...

www.surveymonkey.com/s/ShropshireRuralHealth

For more info or a paper copy contact 01743 252594

The closing date for this survey is 31 July 2013

Street Lights

A reminder that the Parish Council has changed contractors for street light maintenance. Residents have always been helpful in reporting problems and the Council is asking that this continues. The time taken to action repairs should now improve.



Visit us on
Facebook

If you haven't had the chance to check out the facebook page yet — please do and publicise your local event!

www.facebook.com/welshamptonlynealandcolemerecommunity



WELSHAMPTON and ELLESMERE WALK AND BIKE WEEKEND

SATURDAY 13 AND SUNDAY 14 JULY

Saturday 13 July

2 guided walks around Welshampton of about 2.5 hours, morning and afternoon
2 guided cycle rides, one short and easy, suitable for families, the other a moderate 26 miles

The Bike Doctor will be available at the Boathouse, Ellesmere

Sunday 14 July

2 guided walks around Ellesmere of about 2 hours, morning and afternoon

Meres and Mosses experts will be on all walks and rides to explain this unique and special landscape.

For more information and to book a place contact:

Luke Neal, Community Officer, Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Scheme.

Tel 01743 284275

LukeN@shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

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This programme has been supported by Defra, DCLG, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, and Natural England



Useful Contact Details

Parish Council

Welshampton Ward

Ruth Evans Peter Gee
Sarah Jefferies Caroline Hamilton (Vice Chair)
Vacancy Vacancy

Lyneal Ward

Lawrence Houghton Martin Withington
Chris Symes (Chair)
Councillors can be contacted by letter, phone or email through the clerk

Shropshire Council

0345 678 9000

Shropshire Councillor

Brian Williams 01939 234198

Emergency Contacts

In most emergencies you should dial 999

For non - emergencies

West Mercia Police 101
Shropshire Fire & Rescue 01743 260200
West Midlands Ambulance Service 01743 273649

Community Contacts

Welshampton Parish Hall 01948 710687

Contact Information

Keeping YOU Informed is produced by:
Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council
Orchard Cottage
Rowe Lane
Welshampton
SY12 0QB

For further information please contact the Clerk:
Carole Warner on 01948 710672
Email: welshamptonandlynealpc@hotmail.co.uk

The information in this newsletter can be made available in large print and audio tape. Please call 01948 710672 for further details.



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