



Keeping YOU Informed

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council's Local Newsletter

Issue 17 - October 2013

Hello and welcome....

to this, the 17th edition of your Parish newsletter. However, this edition starts on a sad note as it is with great sadness that I have to report the death of Councillor Peter Gee. Peter was a Councillor representing the Welshampton ward and during the three years he served as a Councillor, he made a major contribution to the Council, and represented it on the Local Joint Committee. His considered approach, enthusiasm, dedication and sense of humour will be missed by the other Councillors and the Community. His funeral took place at Colemere church on 2nd October and the Parish Council sends its condolences to Peter's wife Karen and her family.

Within this issue you will find a number of articles asking for residents to volunteer to help. For example, drivers for local community

transport where the public service can no longer afford to take some of our older residents for a weekly shopping trip; the parish plan update; the parish hall management committee; the event calendar printing to keep more people informed about what is going on in the community; the meres and mosses mapping. Other projects, such as youth activities and litter monitoring, have failed recently because of lack of support. It shows that there people in our community who are prepared "to do their bit" BUT they can't do it all themselves and need your support. A thriving community relies on lots of people getting involved. Peter Gee was one of the people who did get involved and I hope that his involvement is an inspiration to others.

Chris Symes.

Local Transport - the community needs YOUR help!

By the time you read this newsletter, radical changes to the public and community transport available in our Parish will have taken place. Firstly, Arriva has withdrawn the lunch time Ellesmere service to and from Welshampton which means the only bus service is early morning, returning late afternoon. Secondly, Shropshire Council has also withdrawn the Shropshire Link service.

Shropshire Link was for people who are unable to use or, like most of our parishioners, don't have access to public transport. Shropshire Council has cited decreasing numbers using the countywide service, making it non sustainable as the reason for withdrawing the service. Fortunately, Community Transport groups which run similar services have stepped up to the mark and taken on some of the routes. For Welshampton and Lyneal Parish

the group looking to provide a replacement service is North Salop Wheelers. NS Wheelers have been providing community transport since 2003 primarily in the Wem and Whitchurch area. Initially, NS Wheelers have committed to providing a fortnightly service to Ellesmere from the Parish. The only thing holding back a weekly service is volunteer drivers.

Can YOU spare a few hours every so often?

To help people in our Parish without their own transport be able to shop in Ellesmere all you need is to hold a driving licence with a D1 category (usually you have passed your driving test prior to 1997) and be prepared to undergo an assessment/induction process with NS Wheelers. You do not have to commit to every week. If a number of volunteers come forward then you may only be

called upon for one morning every few months.

Can I use this new service?

If you used the old Shropshire Link service then your details should have been transferred to NS Wheelers. If you've never used Shropshire Link but feel this type of service is of interest the following information may help.

Membership: users of community transport have to register with the operator. There is a small annual fee to register.

Booking a trip: the service operates on a pre-booked basis only.

Fares and concessionary travel: if you use a bus pass when travelling then it can be used with NS Wheelers. Otherwise a small charge will be made.

For full details of the NS Wheelers service and to volunteer as a driver contact :

John Harrison on 01948 880037 or js.harrison@btinternet.com

Benefice-Wide Events Calendar

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish and Cockshutt cum Petton Parish are closely linked through their churches. The linking of the four church parishes is known as a 'Benefice'. In Cockshutt cum Petton Parish there is a monthly calendar of local events circulated by email and posters in the villages. The co-ordinator, Ewan Williamson would like to expand this and cover our Parish too. Ewan explains:

"Based on the success of the monthly events calendar for Cockshutt and Petton, and the links between the parishes especially when holding events, I am extending the calendar to cover the whole Benefice. Please can you send details of events to events@cockshuttvillage.com by the 20th of the month prior to publication. To receive the calendar every month email events@cockshuttvillage.com with "Subscribe" as the subject. I would appreciate a volunteer, or two, in Welshampton to print and display the calendar in popular locations such as the school, hairdressers, garage and public house."

Meeting Dates

Council Meetings

Wednesday 23 October
Wednesday 27 November
Wednesday 18 December
Wednesday 22 January
Wednesday 26 February
Wednesday 26 March

All meetings are in the Parish Hall
and start at 7pm

Welshampton & Lyneal Parish Hall
Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 19 November
7.30pm

Come and support your Hall
Management Committee

Caterpillars Preschool

A new alternative to traditional nursery schooling !

Caterpillars Preschool in Welshampton has been taken over by new management and the Montessori approach has been introduced. The school uses classical Montessori methods within the government approved national framework which include being able to offer free childcare to children who have turned 3 years.

Owner and Manager Camilla Bruce explains further, "We take a holistic approach to education. We use the Montessori method to create an environment which promotes independence, self-discipline and child-centred learning. We guide the children to follow their particular interests and curiosities, enabling them to achieve academic excellence without imposed pressure or external expectations. We also encourage each child to express his or her thoughts and feelings, and help them problem solve through their own critical thinking. We believe instilling these tools in early childhood will help them thrive throughout their lives.

Being given the physical and emotional space of the Montessori environment in order to 'find themselves' and to develop a sense of value and self-worth, the child leaving the Montessori nursery for a larger Reception class is ideally positioned to form new friendships and relationships as well as demonstrating his or her independence and self-discipline." Camilla has ten years experience as manager of a Montessori setting and says "Time after time we have experienced Montessori children moving into their Reception class with an enthusiasm for learning as well as self-confidence."

Camilla is keen to bring Montessori to Shropshire, having worked in London and Hertfordshire where Montessori is far more widespread. Caterpillars Montessori has a team of dedicated staff using the Montessori philosophy and working with each child as an individual. Camilla says "The learning environment is set up to embrace the surrounding natural environment and is guaranteed to allow each child to reach their full potential."

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Plan

Back in 2005 and about this time of year a public meeting was held to gauge interest in the production of a Parish Plan. A Parish Plan is an initiative intended to involve local residents in planning the future of their community. It sets out the vision of the community for the future of our Parish and identifies short, medium and long term goals to achieving that vision.

A small group of residents gave up a great deal of their spare time in order to produce a Plan for our Parish. This involved sending a questionnaire to every home in the Parish asking for views on a wide range of issues and providing the opportunity for everyone to have their say about what was important

to them. A staggering 45% of the questionnaires were sent back.

The Parish Council adopted the Plan in 2008 and since has worked hard to fulfil the requirements of the Plan. For example, it has improved communication with the residents, continues to push for traffic calming along the A495 and B5063, hosted a Green Day in the Parish Hall and encouraged the formation of a Parish Paths Partnership. The time has now come to re-fresh the Plan and the Parish Council will be discussing over the next few months how this project will be progressed. If you would like to be involved in shaping the next Plan for the Parish please contact the Clerk or local Councillor.

Welshampton & Lyneal Parish Hall

As we gradually move closer to autumn, regular users of the Parish Hall will be pleased to know that during the summer the heating boiler was replaced. The old boiler had given sterling service but was worn out! The timing of a new financial year meant the Committee could apply again for a grant from the Ellesmere Local Joint Committee and we were successful in obtaining £1,830. Ellesmere Round Table also donated £250 towards the cost. We would like to publicly thank these 2 organisations. The new boiler can also circulate cold air — a feature welcomed by those attending the Cajun weekend in August!

Thank you to all who completed the User Survey enclosed with the

previous newsletter. All the comments have been collated and will be used in drawing up an improvement plan.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 November at 7.30pm. Part of the meeting will be explaining some of the ideas for improving the Hall. Come along and give your opinion!

The Committee is also looking for new members. If you use the Hall why not come onto the Committee? We meet monthly but only for a couple of hours. Why not give it a go?

The Hall Committee

New Parish Councillors

Over the summer months 2 new Councillors were co-opted onto the Parish Council. These were vacancies from the election process held in May. The 2 Councillors are Bob Richards and Jennifer Wright. For some, these names will be very familiar as they have both been involved in community life for many years. The Council thanks both Bob and Jennifer for putting themselves forward to take on a role which is not always the easiest! For those who do not know Bob and Jennifer hear is a brief introduction:

Hello my name is Bob Richards. I moved here with my wife Susan 7 years ago, you may have seen me around the village riding my bike, walking the dogs or in one of the more recent bonfire / panto performances.

As one of Welshampton's newest representative on the Parish Council please feel free to

contact me regarding any concerns or ideas you may have regarding life in the Village.

Jennifer has served on the Council before and stood down to concentrate on her family. Jennifer explains:

I have lived in Lyneal for just over 18 years and during that time have played an active role in and around the community. My children are still of school age so not only am I aware of the likes and needs of people in our villages, I am also aware of how the children feel in such a rural location. I am looking forward to representing the community again to the best of my powers and also hopefully getting to meet and know more of the parish over the coming years.



Visit us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/welshamptonlynealandcolemerecommunity

Future Events at the Hall

The Harmonettes Go Into Orbit

A brand new 1950's Musical Comedy jam packed with all your favourite hits of the period live in 3 part Harmony, suitable for all ages, starring the fantastic Harmonettes. This is an evening that will plunge you into the post war end of rationing world of winkle picker shoes, bobby socks, beautiful ballads and rock and roll!

Friday 29th November
7.30pm

Adult £8, children £5
Family ticket £25

Contact Mary Keith 01948 710586.

This is an Arts Alive subsidised show, proceeds to the Parish Hall. Refreshments available.

Come dressed up if you dare!
www.theharmonettes.co.uk

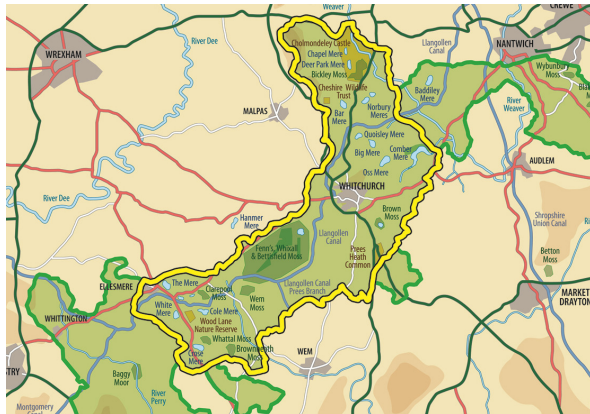
Are You Registered to Vote?

The Register of Electors is published every year and is produced to allow eligible people to vote in elections.

Please remember:

- If you are a British, Irish, Commonwealth or European Union Citizen, you need to be on the Electoral Register to be able to vote.
- You must register every year. You are not automatically registered, even if you pay Council Tax.
- If you want to restrict who has access to your name and address on the Electoral Register, you must tell the Electoral Registration Officer that you want to "opt out".
- If you move house, you should register at your new address straight away - you don't have to wait for the next canvass.

Surveying the Meres and Mosses: Landowner Notification



The Meres and Mosses landscape partnership scheme is embarking on an ambitious 4 year project to map the varying habitats that exist across the project area, marked in yellow on the map adjacent. The project will be led by a small team working for the Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

The project will be using volunteers to collect the data by means of a phase 1 habitat survey. This standardised ecological technique is a means of mapping large amounts of vegetation cover relatively quickly.

In planning for the project we have put in place several measures to ensure any disturbance to landowners is avoided. Firstly, volunteers will be restricted to gathering information from public rights of way so land access need not be a concern. We have also limited the number of volunteers working in any 6km² area to a maximum of two people so as to avoid large groups on footpaths or roads. It is important to note that the information we obtain will be used strictly for steering our environmental work within the area and at no stage will it be passed onto any third parties.

We understand the success of this project depends on working closely with landowners. To do this we will be in regular contact with the NFU, informing them of the whereabouts of our volunteers and updating them on the progress of their work. Despite our objective being environmental conservation, we would also like private landowners to benefit from the data we collect. For example, if you feel the information we obtain on your land may be advantageous to you in terms of an environmental stewardship application, we would be delighted to share this with you.



If you would like to get involved or for any further enquiries regarding this project please do not hesitate to contact the project coordinator, Joe Pimblett at jpimblett@cheshirewt.org.uk.

Useful Contact Details

Parish Council

Welshampton Ward

Ruth Evans Sarah Jefferies
Caroline Hamilton (Vice Chair) Bob Richards
Jennifer Wright 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:
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Welshampton
SY12 0QB

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

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