

Keeping YOU Informed

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council's Local Newsletter

Issue 2 - October 2008

What has the Council been doing?

Hello and welcome to the second issue of your Parish Council newsletter. Since our first issue in June it has been a busy few months for the Council, with much of the activity associated with the development of the Parish Plan, and on matters arising from the creation of the Unitary Council for Shropshire.

Presentations have been made to the Council by North Shropshire District Council staff about the management plan for the mere and surrounding land at Colemere, and about youth service work in the area. The Council has submitted written responses to the Boundary Commission with regard to the proposed changes, to the County Council regarding capital expenditure priorities in primary schools, and to the Independent Policy Commission on primary school organisation. These last two issues have given the Council further opportunity to air the concerns experienced earlier in the year about the now discredited, and withdrawn, proposal to close Welshampton school. We continue our involvement with the police and emergency services, and the highways department is a regular contact.

Your Council monitors planning applications and residents can be assured that the major consideration is that all proposals are in line with the Village Design Statement and the Parish Plan.

More information on many Council matters can be found on our web site and, of course, we welcome any feedback about the site and this newsletter, contact details being on the back page. There are a number of items where feedback to the Council is essential so that we can make progress in the desired direction – please respond!

I do hope you enjoy this edition of “Keeping You Informed” and find that as a result of reading it, you are being better informed about your Parish Council.

Chris Symes

Chair of Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

Inaugural P3 Meeting

Following a presentation on Parish Path Partnerships (P3s) by Richard Knight, the County Council's Access Maintenance Team Leader, at the Council meeting in July, a small group of residents have been working on setting up a P3 group in our Parish.

The inaugural meeting is being held on Tuesday 28th October in the Parish Hall at 7pm. George Rook has agreed to act as co-ordinator to get the Group established. He explains “The business will simply be to agree how we, as a group, want to approach the project, decide what we want to do, and agree a start. The group will primarily be walking and inspecting our parish footpaths and bridleways in order to monitor whether any work is required to keep them walkable. It is not intended to be a burden on anyone. Each person involved can do as much or as little as they wish. And it might be quite good fun!”

If you are interested in joining the Group please come to the meeting!

Have Your Say

Internet Connection

At a recent meeting of the Council two residents expressed concern about the quality of internet connection in the Parish. This was not the first time this subject has come to the attention of the Parish Council. Do **you** have a problem? Is this causing problems with your business or frustrating your children while doing their homework? Let us know!

Excess Household Waste Collection

The cost of providing skips within the Parish has increased over the years. In 2006 the cost of 3 skips, twice a year, amounted to around £820, currently the cost is nearer £1,600. Do you think this is the best use of **your** money? Should skips be provided at all or just once a year? The Council will be soon discussing next year's expenditure. Have you say now!

Future Council Meetings

Wednesday 12 November	7.15pm
Wednesday 3 December	7.15pm
Wednesday 7 January	7.15pm

All meetings are held at Welshampton Parish Hall.
Please do come along!

Parish Young People Pioneer New Youth Project!

At the Council's September meeting, Rachel Scotland, the youth worker guiding the Welshampton Young People, was invited to update the Council on the progress young people have made on their plans to re-instate a Youth Club. At the Parish Plan meeting in 2007, young people stated they wanted to plan and run their own Club. Rachel explained this was the first time in the North West Rural Area that young people had taken the lead in planning their club in this detail. Under the guidance of the North West Rural Youth Project, tasks have included carrying out risk assessments, drawing up behaviour contracts, funding and understanding legal requirements. Their next step is to hold an open meeting and present their plans to the whole community.

The Council was excited to hear how much work has been carried out and promised to support the young people where possible.

Having spent so much effort the young people deserve the support of the community so look out for posters advertising the open meeting soon.

New Homes to Rent in North Shropshire

The Wrekin Housing Trust is one of the largest independent housing providers in Shropshire with over 11,000 houses in management. It is currently developing a number of properties in North Shropshire to rent to people with local connections with the area.

These properties are in Market Drayton, Wem, Tilstock and Cockshutt and range from 1 bedroom apartments to 3 bedroom houses.

If you are interested in renting a home from the Trust you will find out more information from www.chooseyourhome.org.uk or phone Jon Cooper at the Trust on 01952 217140.

Parish Plan Progress Report

The Parish Plan continues to be a key item at Council Meetings where progress on every action point is monitored.

What has happened?

Since the last newsletter there have been a number of achievements:

Cycle Racks have been installed at the Parish Hall.

A **Notice Board** has been placed outside the Parish Hall.

A **P3 Group** is in the process of setting up — see article in newsletter.

Progress on **Speeding through the Parish** — see article below.

A planning application has received approval which includes provision for a **Car Park in Welshampton**.

Steering Committee Disbands

Since the publication of the Plan the Parish Council is now the main driving force for ensuring it is implemented. The Steering

Committee has therefore completed its purpose and, at a meeting in June, it formally disbanded.

The Council has thanked the members of the Committee, Bob Daniels, Ruth Evans, Clare Harland, Caroline Hamilton, Lawrence Houghton, Joan Mowl, Phil Noden, Pete Pleavin, Alan Scott and Chris Thomas, and believes they have made a significant contribution to our community.

Transfer of Remaining Funds

The Steering Committee received grants to produce the and publish the Plan and on disbandment, there was a balance £366.64 remaining. The Community Council of Shropshire has agreed that these funds can be transferred to the Council on the understanding that they are used towards a Parish Plan project to the benefit of the community.

The Sun Inn

Most Parish residents will have heard, by the time this newsletter is published, that the second planning application submitted by the owners of The Sun and its site, Sircar Builders Ltd, was approved by NSDC earlier this month.

Although there were aspects of the second application the Parish Council supported it could not give overall support as the number of affordable houses in the development still did not comply with the minimum percentage requirement. Although this was a reason for NSDC to refuse permission the first time of application, permission was granted this time around.

The Parish Council hopes that Sircar Builders takes on board its comments made in response to the second application: the phasing of the development should be in line with village needs in that The Sun alterations and the affordable homes to be completed before the remaining new homes commence.

New Traffic Signs

Since the last newsletter there have been some new traffic signs erected in the Parish. Have you noticed the 20mph school warning signs in Welshampton? These are advisory and are there to try and help drivers be more aware of the school. The authorities know that within the advisory signs there are 30mph repeater speed limit signs, needed for legal reasons where there are no street lights, and are investigating ways to resolve any confusion.

Welshampton to Wem road

Other new signs are the pedestrians in carriageway signs along the B5063. The Council has taken into account comments made by residents and are working with the County in the placing of the signs. The Council hope that the re-sighting of one sign and an additional sign will give better protection to children waiting for school buses at Hampton Bank and people who walk along the Balmer.

Welshampton Parish Hall

It is 15 years since the current Parish Hall was built. This year the Hall's Management Committee decided to carry out a major review and many areas of its procedure and operation have been brought up to date. It was for these reasons that the Annual General Meeting was delayed this year and held on Thursday 2 October.

Booking and Hire Rates

The outgoing Chair, Chris Thomas, explained one area of the review; "One important part was the Hall Booking procedures and Hire Rates for it is many years since the Hire Rates have been reviewed. In light of increased costs and taking into account 'competitor's' rates the Committee has agreed to increase rates on certain hires. These will come into effect following this meeting. The booking system has been reviewed too and new Booking Forms are in place."

Hall Improvements

The Committee wants the Hall to continue as an excellent facility and your views are sought on what improvements, you the

user, would like to see. Please take time to think about this as the Committee really want some feedback! One area for development they would like to consider is the Snooker Room. The snooker table has been part of the Hall for many years and was renovated, thanks to the generosity of Mr Doug Creyke, when it was installed in the new Hall. However, over the last 15 years the table has been used less and less and the Committee is reviewing whether the room can be better utilised. One suggestion is that the room could be converted into a bar and lounge area. This would give a quieter area away from the main hall. These changes would also ensure that the hall complies with current licensed premises legislation. What do you think? What other improvements do you consider are necessary? The Committee would like to hear. Please forward your comments to the Secretary.

Welshampton Parish Hall on the internet!

The Parish Hall is hoping to make booking the Hall easy, by placing its booking form on the internet. The Parish Council has a

dedicated section about the Hall on its website and the Parish Hall is in the process of setting up its own website through www.shrop.net. **Look out for progress in community newsletters.**

New Councillors

The Council is delighted to announce the co-option of 2 new Councillors Ruth Evans and Ian Yates.

Ruth introduces herself..... "I moved to Welshampton in May 2005 and became involved with the Parish Plan steering committee as secretary. During the consultations prior to the publication of the Parish Plan I learnt much about the area and its population. I was co-opted onto the Parish Council this July when a vacancy arose. I am particularly interested in the environment and wildlife of our countryside. Although I lived in North West Wales for 30 years I was born in Whitchurch, where my mother, brother and nephews still live, and my ancestors farmed at Lyneal."

And Ian..... "I am married to Lynne and we have 2 children. We moved to Welshampton about 2½ years ago from Cheshire. I was born in Yorkshire, but lived in Telford for most of my life, and my parents still live in Ironbridge. My family are keen supporters of Welshampton School, and we helped to raise money recently with other parents, by white water rafting in Wales. In the short space of time we have lived here people have made us feel so welcome. This attitude is borne out of the community in which you live, and it is this type of attitude I think should be cherished. By joining the Parish Council, not only can I get to know more people, but I can hopefully help to ensure the future of this community and the people in it."

These vacancies arose due to the resignations of Tracey Eccles and Jennifer Wright due to personal reasons. The Council thanks both Tracey and Jennifer for their contribution to the community.

Do You Run A Local Business?

The Council would like to add an on-line local business directory to its website. The purpose is two fold: one to help local businesses reach as many potential customers as possible, and two, to give parish residents, who would prefer to support local businesses, an easy to use local guide.

The only criteria is that the business is based in the Parish. So, if you run a local based business forward details to the Clerk and she will include your business in the guide.

Please note that the guide is to help put local businesses and residents together and inclusion in the guide does not infer endorsement by the Council.

RAF Shawbury Visit

There has been a good response to the offer of a free guided tour to RAF Shawbury following the article in the June edition. The Clerk has arranged a tour, to include the flying school and air traffic, on Thursday 15 January at 1pm and should last about 3 hours. Holding the tour on a 'working day' may not be convenient for some but the tour can not be organised for a Saturday as the flying school is closed and there is no air traffic.

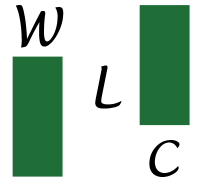
Sign Up Quick!

The tour is limited to 20 people on a 'first come, first served' basis. To book your place, please email or phone the Clerk (details overleaf) with your name, address and contact details.



Useful Contact Details

For a more comprehensive list of local contacts please look at the Council's website www.shrop.net/welshampton



Parish Council

Welshampton Ward

Margaret Evans
Ruth Evans
Richard Hall
Caroline Hamilton (Vice Chair)
Sarah Jefferies
Ian Yates

Lyneal Ward

Bob Daniels
Lawrence Houghton
Chris Symes (Chair)

Councillors can be contacted by letter, phone or email through the clerk

Carole Warner (Clerk) 01948 710672
welshamptonandlynealpc@hotmail.co.uk
www.shrop.net/welshampton

North Shropshire DC 01939 232771

www.northshropshiredc.gov.uk
Dog Warden 01939 238460
emergencies only 07702 166039
Environmental Health 01939 238460
including flytipping
Planning Dept 01939 238424

Shropshire County Council 0845 678 9000
customerfirst@shropshire.gov.uk
www.shropshire.gov.uk

For all enquiries regarding Education, Highways, Social Services, Road Safety and Trading Standards

Shropshire Waste Partnership

0845 678 9009

For all enquiries regarding waste, re-cycling and bulky waste collection service.

Emergency Contacts

In most emergencies you should dial 999

For non - emergencies

West Mercia Police 08457 444 888

Shropshire Fire & Rescue 01743 260200

West Midlands Ambulance Service

01743 273649

NHS Direct

0845 46 47

Local Policing Teams

Ellesmere (Welshampton) 01743 264749

ellesmere.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Ellesmere Rural (Colemere and Lyneal)

01743 264704

ellesmererural.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Community Contacts

Welshampton Parish Hall

General Enquiries 01948 710479

Bookings 01948 710317

Shropshire Community Directory

01743 255305

community.info@shropshire.gov.uk

www.shropshire.gov.uk/community.nsf

Shropshire's foremost directory of clubs, societies, organisations and help groups.

Countryside Services

01743 255061

www.shropshire.gov.uk/countryside.nsf

Countryside Community Projects

01691 624448

countryside.conservation@shropshire-cc.gov.uk

RAF Shawbury

01939 250351

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