

# Keeping YOU Informed

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council's Local Newsletter

Issue 5 - October 2009

## Welcome.....

to the latest issue of the newsletter which keeps you informed about what your Parish Council has been doing during the last few months and what is happening in the near future. The articles here report on the work and progress the Council is making on issues within the Parish Plan and the achievement of Quality Council accreditation.

After a quiet period towards the end of the North Shropshire District Council and the start of Shropshire Unitary Council, it seems that County Council business is settling down and the Parish Council is again receiving assorted policy documents for consideration and comment. There have been fewer requests for planning developments and so the planning committee has met less frequently. However, the group of Councillors responsible for the Community Green Day in March are meeting regularly.

By the next issue, we will be into the 2010/11 budget setting procedure. The likely significant differences from this year will be the requirement of a proper maintenance budget for the sports court, and a review of the provision of skips at the Council's cost. Is it fair that all householders pay for a facility which only a few use, at a time when waste disposal increasingly becomes the responsibility of the individual? There are many households where recycling has become a way of life, and it is probably only a matter of time before providing a skip in which members of the public can dump anything, will be illegal. What do you think? Tell our Parish Clerk, or better still, attend one of the Parish Council meetings – every meeting begins with time allocated for residents to speak.

Chris Symes

## Traffic!

Residents will not have forgotten the traffic accident that happened on Saturday 22 August which demolished part of Sycamore House, Welshampton. An incident, which although traumatic enough for the family involved, could have been much more serious. The Parish Council's thanks goes to the emergency services for their response and to neighbouring residents for their help on the day. The Council has also offered Mr Bailey its help, if required, with the authorities.

In the days following the accident the Parish Council was very active. It spoke to the Police and they agreed to share the findings in their report, compiled by a specialist crash investigator, with the Council. It also contacted Martin Withington, Head of Traffic Management Shropshire Council and invited him to the next meeting of the Council. Mr Withington was unable to attend but gave assurances that Shropshire Council will consider any appropriate and necessary interventions and work with Welshampton in pilot schemes. At the time of writing the Police are still carrying out their investigations but the Council is aware that a speeding offence is not being pursued.

### OK, but what else has the Council being doing?

The Council continues to seek as much support for traffic calming measures in Welshampton as possible. Recently, Shropshire Council issued a consultation document on Speed Management and the use of Vehicle Activated Signs. It was an opportunity to re-iterate the problems encountered on the 3 main routes into Welshampton. The Parish Council also commented on the unfair proposals for funding the signs. A full copy of the Council's response is available on the website.

The Parish Council has agreed it will organise a petition in support of traffic calming measures in Welshampton — if this is important to you, make sure you sign! It has secured agreement from Shropshire Council and the Police to attend a meeting, similar to the one about The Balmer, as soon as practical and Chris Symes has been successful in ensuring that speeding traffic is a topic for discussion at the next Local Joint Committee meeting, to be held at Welshampton Parish Hall on 7 January. These meetings are open to the public and includes participation sessions so they are a good arena for re-enforcing local opinion on local issues. ***Please make sure you attend and have your say.***

### Has anything been achieved?

There are a couple of good news items. First of all, the car park in Stocks Lane for the use of the school, church and community is now open. The Parish Council thanks and acknowledges the generosity of the Mainwaring Family in providing this facility. Also, the Police have confirmed that the Community SpeedWatch programme will be rolled out in Welshampton once the pilot scheme is completed. If you can volunteer to help with Welshampton SpeedWatch please let the Clerk know. However, there will be some formalities to complete.

There is still a way to go but the Parish Council is committed to taking all appropriate action to make our roads safe. If you have an opinion or suggestion come to a Council meeting, the next one is on 25 November, **your** Council is here to listen and act!

## Parish Hall Update

At a recent meeting of the Parish Hall Management Committee James Cross was elected Treasurer. The Committee, and indeed the Parish, thanks the previous Treasurer, Doug Furber, for his work. He has left the Committee with more than six months working capital and accounts that show a surplus for the year to 30 June 2009 of £1,063.

James is an ideal choice as Treasurer being a Chartered Accountant who retired from public practice in Kent. James and his wife Angela came to live in Lyneal just over two years ago. They both enjoy living in Shropshire and interests include the canal — when they have time. As James says, “We have a narrow boat that we keep in Whixall Marina named ‘Maud’ because too often she is moored!” Being a relatively newcomer to the Parish James was surprised to find out that the Hall is a venue for a variety of activities, from Parish Council meetings and a Polling Station to Old Time Dancing twice a week and Whist Drives, Bingo and an Afternoon Club once a month. Even saying this, the Committee is aware that success for the future is more use of the Hall to generate more income to fund more facilities to increase the use of the hall and so produce yet more income for more improvements. In other words creating a virtuous circle.

Every one can help James and the Committee by using the Hall and by letting them know what activities you would like to see organised there. James is happy to receive comments at Cherry House, Lyneal, SY12 0QG. Telephone: 01948 710122. Email: james.cross@digges.net

To remind you, the Hall can be booked for parties of up to 150 right down to small meetings held in the committee room. It has a kitchen and can have a licensed bar and run small raffles and lotteries. Hire rates are very reasonable! If you want to use the hall just contact Lorraine Jones on 01948 710687. Full details at [www.2shrop.net/welshamptonparishhall](http://www.2shrop.net/welshamptonparishhall).

## “Community Green Day” Saturday 13 March 2010

Everywhere households are feeling the pressure of higher energy, food and fuel costs and individuals are encouraged to reduce their own ‘carbon footprint’. National and county targets in connection with environmental issues are also well publicised. On the whole, individuals are supportive to these issues but are not always aware of how they can contribute.

Residents may remember that a specific action point in the Parish Plan was to hold a local ‘Green Day’ event. Recently the Council agreed that it will hold an event of this kind and the date has been set for Saturday 13 March 2010.

The ‘Green Day’ will be a one day educational and fun event giving visitors the opportunity to explore alternative and practical choices covering the whole spectrum of day to day living. It is hoped to raise awareness of sustainable solutions to

environmental problems.

There will be stalls, displays, activities for young and old and contributions by local children. Stall holders will primarily be local and county based organisations and companies.

A small group from the Council have agreed to organise the event but if you would like to be involved, either by helping on the day or exhibiting, then please contact the Clerk.

The Council believes no event of this type has been organised before in the Parish and by holding a local and free event, it will allow residents to attend more easily, even if for only half an hour!

## Good News for Primary School!

During the summer holidays, Shropshire Council invested significant funds in the School premises by having it completely re-roofed and a new central office built for the Head Teacher, Mrs Christine Smith. The support of the local community and particularly the neighbours during this work has been very much appreciated.

In addition, the School is due to be externally redecorated during the next school half term holiday, and the addition of the car park at the rear has greatly assisted with previous parking and traffic issues. Again, a big thank you to the Mainwarings for their help here.

With the start of the new school year, the school has been able to offer an exciting and varied range of after school activities and clubs to the pupils, and it is hoping to arrange even more.

The school is currently very pleased with the number of pupils on the roll and an additional 6 reception children are due to start after Christmas. Enquiries for pupil places are always welcome and should be directed to the Head Teacher.  
Sarah Jefferies

## Having A Say In Democracy

### Individuals

Everyone can have a say in the democratic process, but only if you have registered to vote! Make sure your name is on the Register of Electors. You can register at anytime, contact 0345 6789015.

### The Parish Council

Earlier this year the Council resolved to work towards accreditation as a Quality Council ensuring more opportunities to represent the community in local and national issues. Since then, the Council has committed to Councillor training and agreed a Community Engagement Strategy. Another key requirement is to have a qualified Parish Clerk. The Council is pleased to announce that the Clerk, Carole Warner, attained her Certificate in Local Council Administration this summer. The Council is on its way to meeting the strict criteria.

## P3 Group

During a successful first year we have walked all the footpaths and bridleways in the Parishes except one - FP50 which runs up the hill from the Shrewsbury road to the Whitchurch road, and then joins this road beside George's Wood. We've left this because we think it's too dangerous to use, and we hope to find a way to address this.

During the summer we cut back the overgrowth along FP12 between Lyneal Lodge and Balmer as it was impassable. We are grateful to someone else for clearing the track from the Sun down to the lane near Hampton House Farm.

The County's Countryside Access team has supported us by providing a brushcutter and safety gear (and training).

This winter we plan to re-walk paths and do minor pruning at stiles and replace missing or incorrect waymark disks.

We walk on the first Wednesday of each month in the afternoon and we'd love to have more people join us. Please contact us through the Clerk.

The November walk will start from Colemere car park at 2.00. Please do join us.

George Rook

## Colemere Guided Tour

A date for your diaries! The Ranger responsible for Colemere has offered to give a guided tour around the mere to residents, next Spring, Thursday 27 May 2010 at 7.15pm. To make the most of the tour, the maximum number of residents has to be restricted to 15. Book your place now by contacting the Clerk or it may be too late!

## Council Visits Wood Lane

In September the Parish Council accepted an invitation from Tudor Griffiths Ltd to have an escorted tour around its Wood Lane facility.

Tudor Griffiths and several of his senior management team greeted us and Tudor gave a short talk about the history and development of the family owned company which today employs over 200 people. We then boarded an open trailer car and were taken to see the various parts of the operation. The site is huge.

The current business consists of landfill, recycling and sand and gravel extraction. The landfill operation has gradually been overtaken by recycling and Tudor explained that although there is always likely to be a demand for landfill, the modern way is to recycle. A modern recycling plant is currently under construction and will be up and running shortly. The power for the new plant is generated from landfill gasses which are converted to electricity. The unused electricity is sold to the National Grid. Tudor explained that recycling is the way forward and the company hope to develop their facilities even further in the future.

The jewel in the crown of the operation is the wetland nature reserve created from the exhausted sand and gravel extraction pits. Although the company is obliged to reinstate the land it takes a huge amount of pride in what it has achieved in partnership with Shropshire Wildlife Trust. The reserve is a Mecca for bird watchers and is also used as an educational facility for schools.

The company has an open door policy and if you get the chance to visit the site for yourself I can thoroughly recommend it.

Lawrence Houghton

## Does Your Group Need Funds?

Previous issues of 'Keeping **YOU** Informed' have included articles about the new Local Joint Committees. Committee 2, which includes our Parish, is now up and running and the second meeting was held on 30 September. The next meeting will be held in Welshampton Parish Hall on 7 January at 7pm. Residents are encouraged to attend.

### Grants

An important part of the Committee's remit is to allocate an annual budget for the benefit of the local communities. At the last meeting the first tranche of funds was allocated and nearly £7,000 was given to local projects. Great news for the groups in the wider community but the surprising thing to report is that there was not one

application from a group in our Parish!

There is over £21,000 available to be allocated before the end of March 2010 and it is a real opportunity for our local groups to benefit.

### How to apply

The application form and full details of the procedures are available on the Shropshire Council website under Local Joint Committees. The Council recommends that in the first instance, you talk to the Local Regeneration Officer for our area, Corrie Davies, who is based at the Council's Wem office on 01939 237431. Corrie's role is to help groups with their applications and give advice on all funding streams, not just Shropshire

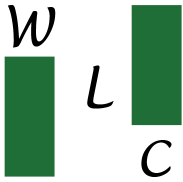
Council's. Corrie is keen to get to know all the groups in the Parish and help in anyway she can.

### Act fast!

Although the next meeting is in January the deadline for grant applications is 16 November, so you need to act fast. The procedure and form are not difficult to complete so why not phone Corrie today and get that form in!

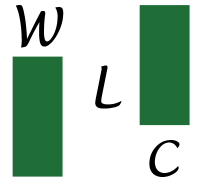
## Community Spirit

This year the Parish Council has not received any complaints about hedge clippings being left on the roads. Thank you to all the land owners. There are two areas where the Council regularly receives complaints — mud on the road and dog fouling. The Council would politely remind dog and land owners of their responsibilities.



## Useful Contact Details

For a more comprehensive list of local contacts please look at the Council's website [www.2shrop.net/welshampton](http://www.2shrop.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](mailto:welshamptonandlynealpc@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.2shrop.net/welshampton](http://www.2shrop.net/welshampton)

### Shropshire Councillor

Brian Williams 01939 234198

### Shropshire Council 0345 678 9000

[Customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:Customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk)  
[www.shropshire.gov.uk](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk)  
Benefits 0345 678 9001  
Council tax 0345 678 9002  
Business rates 0345 678 9003  
Planning and building control 0345 678 9004  
Housing and social services 0345 678 9005  
Streets, roads and transport 0345 678 9006  
Bins and recycling 0345 678 9007  
Children's services 0345 678 9008  
Payment line 0345 678 9009  
Corporate fax 0345 678 9011  
Dog Warden 0845 678 9018  
*emergencies only* 07702 166039  
Flytipping 0845 678 9009  
Bulky waste collection service 0845 678 9009

### 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](mailto:ellesmere.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)  
**Ellesmere Rural (Colemere and Lyneal)** 01743 264704  
[ellesmererural.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ellesmererural.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

#### Community Contacts

##### **Welshampton Parish Hall**

General Enquiries & Bookings 01948 710687

**Ellesmere Info-Link** 01691 624488  
[ellesmereinfo@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:ellesmereinfo@shropshire.gov.uk)

#### Shropshire Community Directory

01743 255305  
[community.info@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:community.info@shropshire.gov.uk)  
[www.shropshire.gov.uk/community.nsf](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/community.nsf)

**Countryside Services** 01743 255061  
[www.shropshire.gov.uk/countryside.nsf](http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/countryside.nsf)

#### Countryside Community Projects

01691 624448  
[countryside.conservation@shropshire-cc.gov.uk](mailto:countryside.conservation@shropshire-cc.gov.uk)

**RAF Shawbury** 01939 250351

### Contact Information

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