



Keeping YOU Informed

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council's Local Newsletter

Issue 6 - February 2010

Hello and welcome.....

to this edition of your Parish Council newsletter.

In this issue you will find details about what the Parish Council has been doing recently, and about future events, the most significant being the "Green Day" event, and you will find flyers for this in your envelope. Also included is a flyer from the Parish Hall management committee.

In the next few weeks you will be receiving your council tax demand from Shropshire Council for the year from April 2010. Within the total council tax for each household there is an element, called the precept, which is the amount required by the Parish Council for the services it provides. Your Parish Council annually calculates the precept and informs Shropshire Council of the amount, which is collected and then passed to the Parish Council.

The precept is a small part of the council tax demand, next year on average across all Council Tax bands about £27 per household for the year (53p per week). This sum funds the cost of the parish clerk, insurance, street lighting, grounds maintenance, churchyard donations, communication (this newsletter and the Parish Council web site) and the development of the Parish Plan, and so there is little opportunity for savings. The increase from year to year is over 20% and this is explained by the fact that in recent years the Parish Council has found it necessary to use reserves to balance the budget but this is no longer possible as the reserves now stand at a government recommended level for contingency. The Parish Council is aware that any increase in household expenditure in these tough economic times is unwelcome but on average the increase works out at about 10p per household per week and the Council considered that this increase is a better option than a reduction in services. Full details of the budget for next year are on the web site, or can be obtained from the Parish Clerk.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed and we hope that it achieves this objective. There is also the web site. In addition, all residents can attend any Parish Council meeting where you can see how your Parish Council functions and how your money is spent. You'll be most welcome.

Chris Symes

Colemere Guided Tour

A final reminder! The Ranger responsible for Colemere has offered to give a guided tour around the mere to residents, this 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.

Having A Say In Democracy

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 especially as the General Election is so close.

You can register at anytime, contact Shropshire Council's Elections Team on 0345 6789015.

Councillor Vacancy

In the next couple of months the Parish Council will be advertising for a new Councillor for the Lyneal Ward of the Council. The Council will be looking for someone with an interest in Lyneal and Colemere as they will be representing that area but an interest in the whole community is important. Are you the next Parish Councillor?

Contact us for more details.

Dates For Your Diary

Council Meetings

Wednesday 24 February 7pm

Wednesday 24 March 7pm

Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 12 May 7.30pm

Skips for Excess Household Waste

This year the Parish Council is grateful to Tudor Griffiths Group for sponsoring the skips. The dates have been booked as follows:

Welshampton

6 March

Colemere

13 March

Lyneal

20 March

Skips will arrive at 8am and leave at midday.

LJC Grants for Parish

At the recent meeting of the Local Joint Committee (LJC) held at Welshampton Parish Hall, Welshampton Primary School and the Parish Hall Management Committee were successful in obtaining grants towards their current projects. The Parish Council was also granted £500 towards staging the Community Green Day.

Welshampton Church of England Primary School

Welshampton Primary School was successful in obtaining £1,500 towards the set up of an outdoor classroom as part of a 'Forest School'.

'Forest Schools' is an innovative educational approach to outdoor play and learning and its philosophy is to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through positive outdoor experiences.

The School already provides 'Friday Field Fun', a limited version of a Forest School, but with the grant more equipment and storage will be possible.

Welshampton Parish Hall

The Parish Hall Management Committee applied to the LJC for help towards its project to upgrade some basic facilities including furniture, kitchen and bar equipment. These items are in constant use and wear and tear has taken its toll over the years.

The Management Committee is committed to maintain and improve the Hall's facilities in order to retain existing groups and to attract new users. The Committee has divided the Refurbishment Project into 3 parts and plans to implement it over 3 years. Part One is the upgrade of basic facilities and the LJC awarded £1,500 towards this.

Would your Group benefit from a LJC Grant?

Yes? Then talk to Shropshire Council's Local Regeneration Officer for our area, Corrie Davies, on 01939 237431.

Update on Traffic Issues in the Parish

Petition for Traffic Calming Measures

The Petition was well supported with nearly 200 local residents signing it. It was handed over by the Parish Council to Shropshire Councillor Martin Taylor-Smith, Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning and Transport, at the Local Joint Committee (LJC) held in January. Thank you to all who signed the Petition — Shropshire Council now knows the Parish Council is acting with the support of the community.

Working Together

The Discussion Section of the LJC meeting was dedicated to parking and speeding issues. It was evident from the discussions that speeding throughout the Ellesmere Local Joint Committee area is an issue. However, Parish Councillors and residents made sure Shropshire Council Officers clearly understood our specific issues.

The Parish Council is sympathetic to similar speeding problems encountered by our neighbouring Parish Councils and will actively work with them to raise awareness to the appropriate bodies. By working together we aim to achieve safer roads for all.

Independent Traffic Monitoring

For some time the Parish Council has been wanting to have the roads around Welshampton assessed for speeding. At the end of 2009 the Parish Council became aware that the Safer Roads Partnership for West Mercia carried out free independent traffic monitoring.

The Partnership agreed to monitor three sites identified by the Parish Council and this was carried out in December. The report has been submitted to the Parish Council and it is currently considering its response.

A copy of the report is available on the Parish Council's website.

New Speed Management Policies

At Shropshire Council's meeting on 20 January, it adopted 2 new Speed Management Policies. Consultation had been carried out prior to adoption and the Parish Council responded in depth.

Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) Policy

This Policy sets out the criteria for the use and funding of the signs and cost sharing arrangements.

Although it supported the main themes of the draft policy, in its response during the consultation period, the Parish Council made clear that the cost sharing arrangement proposed was totally unacceptable to small Parish Councils. It also identified 2 additional sites within Welshampton which would be suitable for a VAS.

We are pleased to report that the cost sharing arrangements have been amended, although still

costly, and that Shropshire Council have confirmed that the 2 sites will be considered.

Rural Speed Limit Policy.

This Policy includes the criteria for recommended speed limit changes.

The Parish Council supported initiatives which addressed the issue of speeding traffic but raised concerns that any existing plans and activities could be ignored for new ones. The Parish Council highlighted the progress made with Shropshire Council regarding the B5063 and its fears that this could be overlooked.

In reply, Shropshire Council confirmed that The Balmer is part of the village speed limit programme for 2010/11.

The Parish Council continues to campaign for a 20mph limit at the school.

We hope you will agree that the Parish Council continues to work on your behalf.

"Community Green Day"

Saturday 13 March 2010

Welshampton Parish Hall

What is it all about?

At the time writing this report final preparations for the Community Green Day are well in hand. The Parish Council has been planning for this event for over 6 months and we are looking forward to an exciting day. We are holding this event because you, the local residents, demonstrated a support for, and interest in, the exploration and development of "green" issues at a local level, and specifically asked for a community Green Day event in the Parish Plan.

Welshampton Parish Hall will become a free "Green" Information Fair for the day when there will be stalls, displays, activities for young and old, with a "what we can do for the environment" theme. The event starts at 10am and finishes at 4pm.

But the attractions do not stop at the Parish Hall. There will be opportunities to see and hear firsthand how solar panels and wind turbines can improve energy efficiency. Three local families have very kindly offered to show how they have taken advantage of renewable energy sources. Their homes will be open to visitors from 11am to 4pm. Full details and directions will be available at Welshampton Parish Hall on the day.

You can contribute to the day!

Bring with you your old spectacles, mobile phones, MP3 players and ink cartridges for recycling and you can support the World Cancer Research Fund and Vision Aid Overseas.

Who will be there?

Exhibitors will primarily be local and county based organisations. Confirmed exhibitors are -

Adopt-a-Hive
Association of Charity Shops
Ecoffins
Keep Shropshire Warm
Llani Solar
Lollipops
Shropshire Furniture Scheme
Salop Energy
Severn LETS
Shropshire Community
Wood Recycling
Shropshire Organic Gardeners
Shropshire Council Waste
Prevention
Master Composters
Shropshire Council Sustainable
Transport
Shropshire Wildlife Trust
Smartcar
Tudor Griffiths Group
Welshampton Church of England
Primary School
Welshampton & Lyneal P3 Group
Welshampton & Lyneal
Environmental Group
Welshampton Pre-School

Refreshments, available throughout the day, will be provided by 'The Friends of Welshampton School' with the proceeds going to their current fund raising project.

Another attraction will be the Marches Energy Agency's exciting exhibition trailer "**Light Fantastic**" which provides an inspirational and engaging experience for visitors and creates a persuasive case for switching wasteful and expensive incandescent lighting to low

energy lighting. The trailer provides energy efficiency advice, as well as distributing low-energy light bulbs and 'PowerDown' devices which can help to save money by automatically powering down computer equipment safely when it is turned off. The energy saving goodies are

"The Age of Stupid"

The day will culminate with the screening of the environmental concern film '**The Age of Stupid**' (Classification 12A) in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm by Flicks In The Sticks. This film is a documentary "shocker" regarding the state of the environment and again, entrance will be free.

'The Age Of Stupid' is the cinema documentary from the Director of 'McLibel' and the Producer of the Oscar-winning 'One Day In September'. This enormously ambitious drama-documentary-animation hybrid stars Oscar-nominated Pete Postlethwaite as an old man living in the devastated world of 2055, watching 'archive' footage from 2008 and asking: why didn't we stop climate change while we had the chance?

"The first successful dramatisation of climate change to reach the big screen"
The Guardian

provided free of charge by E.ON. Visitors are also able to try out the 'energy bike' which helps to show how much physical energy needs to be generated in order to light up low-energy light bulbs versus regular bulbs. As well as the chance to see the full range of contemporary low energy bulbs available, there will be short films, information and interactive games.





Useful Contact Details



For a more comprehensive list of local contacts please look at the Council's website 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
www.2shrop.net/welshampton

Shropshire Councillor

Brian Williams 01939 234198

Shropshire Council

0345 678 9000
Customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk
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 <i>emergencies only</i>	0845 678 9018 07702 166039
Flytipping	0845 678 9009
Bulky waste collection service	0845 678 9009

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](mailto:welshamptonandlynealpc@hotmail.co.uk)

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 & Bookings	01948 710687
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Ellesmere Info-Link	01691 624488
ellesmereinfo@shropshire.gov.uk	

Shropshire Community Directory

01743 255305	
community.info@shropshire.gov.uk	
www.shropshire.gov.uk/community.nsf	

Countryside Services	01743 255061
www.shropshire.gov.uk/countryside.nsf	

Countryside Community Projects

01691 624448	
countryside.conervation@shropshire-cc.gov.uk	

RAF Shawbury

01939 250351	
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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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