

# Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 22 June 2016, at Welshampton Parish Hall, starting at 7pm

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### Formal Meeting

### Present

**Councillors:** Andrew Haydon (Chair), Michael Dinsdale, Sarah Jefferies, Bob Richards, Mark Standen, Chris Symes, Martin Withington

**Clerk:** Rebecca Turner

**Members of the Public:** Mark Blount (SC Parks & Greenspaces Team Leader)

### 262/16 Public Participation Period

Mark Blount had provided information regarding the SC country parks service – this had been circulated prior to the meeting. Shropshire Council employs 6 staff and manages 23 sites. SC's financial plan includes cuts for discretionary services. Green spaces (e.g. in urban areas) are under a contract with Ringway until 2018; this does not include the country parks. Funding needs to be found for the country parks which include Colemere Countryside Heritage Site and as part of this approach parish councils are being asked to help with funding. The annual running costs for Colemere are in the region of £30,000. This figure has been calculated by taking the hectareage of all country parks in Shropshire and dividing it by the hectareage of each site and applying a price per hectare.

Cllr. Withington asked Mark about the logic underlying the proposal, in regard to the fact that the sites are a county wide resource and therefore why are individual parishes being asked to fund them? Cllr. Dinsdale highlighted the fact that there are 67,000 visitors but 850 residents in the parish. He asked if the council can collect more detailed data on visitor numbers. Mark acknowledged these points and suggested that some parishes may wish to discuss it with their LJC. He said there is currently no budget for visitor surveys but that he would look into this.

Cllr. Haydon asked what would happen if the parish council said it would/could not fund the site. Mark said that SC would seek alternative funding. Cllr. Withington asked if funding for work such as tree works comes out of capital funds. Mark replied that the service has no capital budget. Cllr. Symes asked what happened when the Open Access land was sold. Mark replied that it went in to a general fund.

Cllr. Dinsdale highlighted that the extra being sought is an increase of circa an additional £95 per Band D household. Cllr. Dinsdale suggested seeking funds from sources such as car parking business sponsorship, a membership scheme. Cllr.

Symes was concerned about potential displacement of parking and impact of this on the church parking and neighbouring properties. Cllr. Withington asked if the boat club lease can be re-negotiated as it's currently only £130 per year. Mark replied that it is a 50 year lease.

Cllr. Jefferies asked if SC is planning to dispose of the sites. Mark replied that SC were originally considering closing the sites and not maintaining them but they are now seeking to continue to fund them. The parish council queried if they could be closed as they are Open Access Land. Cllr. Withington also said that Natural England have enforcement powers if the site, being as it is a SSSI and RAMSAR site, is not looked after. Cllr. Dinsdale asked for clarification on the RAMSAR listing as he could not find it on a list of sites. Mark would find this information and update the parish council.

Mark was asked if the funds would be ringfenced to Colemere or put into a wider pot for the whole county. Mark said there is no guarantee that funds will be ringfenced. The council expressed concern regarding lack of ringfencing.

The parish were asked to give an indication of if they may be willing to provide funding by 1<sup>st</sup> September.

**263/16 Apologies for Absence**

Received and accepted from Cllrs. Houghton and Wright.

**264/16 Minutes of the meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 & corrected minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and they were duly signed. The minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016, with corrected paragraph numbering, were also approved and signed.

**265/16 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Dispensation Requests**

None declared and no dispensations being sought.

**266/16 Planning**

***a. Decisions Received – to note***

i. 16/01734/FUL – Peacock House, Lyneal SY12 0LF – Erection of conservatory to rear elevation

**Decision: Grant Permission**

ii. 15/01305/OUT - Land Adj. Brownlow Cottage, Welshampton, Ellesmere, Shropshire, SY12 0PH

Outline application for the erection of 2 detached dwellings with garages to include means of access

**Decision: Grant Permission**

iii. 14/05656/OUT – Land Adj. Brownlow Cottage, Welshampton, SY12 0LF

Outline application for a detached dwelling to include means of access

**Decision: Grant Permission.**

***b. New Applications Received – to consider response***

None.

***c. Applications previously reported – for update/comment, if required***

- i. 14/04589/MAW Ellesmere Sand And Gravel, Spunhill, SY12 0HY  
Extension to Wood Lane Quarry (revised application)

It was noted that a unanimous resolution to grant planning permission had been passed at SC's North Planning Committee. Cllr. Symes had attended the meeting and reported that he had been informed that work is likely to start within 6 weeks and that the applicant had said they will endeavour to ensure the development proceeds smoothly. Cllr. Symes had spoken at the committee meeting and emphasised the importance of monitoring of impact, as per the Planning Officer's report.

***d. Applications/decisions received after agenda was sent out – for comment/info***

**267/16 Clerk's Report**

The clerk gave an update.

**268/16 Partnership approach to Delivering SC services**

**i. Request for parish council funding towards Colemere Countryside Heritage Site**

It was agreed to seek a meeting with neighbouring parishes – Wem Rural, Wem PC, Ellesmere Rural PC, Ellesmere TC, Cockshutt PC.

The clerk advised that legal and spending powers available to the council would need to be carefully considered as part of the process of considering the request for funding. She recommended seeking SALC's advice and it was agreed to raise an initial enquiry with them.

**ii. Clustering with neighbouring parishes**

As per item 268/16 ii, it was agreed that the council needed to discuss Colemere with the parishes identified above.

**269/16 NHS Future Fit Updates**

Noted.

**270/16 Ellesmere Library consultation**

Noted. The parish values the library and supports the work of the Friends of Ellesmere Library.

**271/16 Financial Matters**

***a. End of Year Accounts***

- i. 2015/16 end of year bank reconciliation and budget report. This was noted with the reconciled balance being £14431.32, payments in the year of £11753.73 and receipts of £16751.40
- ii. Internal auditor's report – noted, no actions arising.
- iii. Annual Return for 2015/16 – It was resolved to approve Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return (Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statements).

**b. Income received – to note**

- TSB - Interest for June - £0.55

**c. Outstanding accounts–** it was resolved to approve the following payments:

Payee	Item	Ref	Chq. no	Net	VAT	Gross
Clearview Accounting	Internal Audit	16	937	£87.00	£0.00	£87.00
R Turner	Salary June & expenses May	17	938	£343.95	£0.00	£343.95
HMRC	PAYE Q1	18	939	£152.00	£0.00	£152.00

**272/16 Councillors' Reports**

None. The Clerk was asked to call a meeting of the Wood Lane Quarry Liaison Group.

**273/16 Parish Matters**

**a. Updates on matters previously reported**

- Flooding in field opposite Mere View, Lyneal*** – SC highways will liaise with the relevant landowners
- Litter Welshampton to Newtown*** – SC has cleared it
- The Hatch, Lyneal*** – no reply from landowner but there is no a “Danger, Keep Out sign”.
- Lyneal Lane to Welshampton*** – overhanging tree needing to be cut back. Clerk to contact highways

**b. New parish matters**

- Tennis net*** – gears on the net have broken. Clerk to contact Peter Sanderson to arrange a repair
- Noticeboards*** – it was agreed that councillors would measure the boards and that the option of sharing a board with the Parish Hall would be investigated
- Land at Brookmill*** – Cllr. Symes had spoken to Guy Wellsbury regarding the ongoing planning enforcement issues at this site. Mr Wellsbury had asked if the parish council could write to SC noting that no action has been taken and asking them what they will do, given that the dates for complying with enforcement action are now up. It was **RESOLVED** to write to that effect.
- Town and Country Planning Act 1990, section 247 – notice re stopping up of a length of unnamed highway leading south eastwards from Brownlow Cottage at Welshampton in Shropshire*** – Mark Wooton, SC Highways officer had emailed an explanation of this proposal: “You will be aware of the planning application for affordable housing on the parcel of land adjacent to Brownlow Cottage. That parcel of land has highway dedicated rights across it, as shown hatched on the attached draft plan. As you will see that hatched strip crosses the adjacent filed area also. Whilst I do not know the history behind this I

*presume that it may have related to a desire to implement an improvement scheme along Balmer Road. In any event such an alignment along this strip of land is impractical.*

*The stopping up proposal is therefore 2 fold. Firstly by stopping up the land across the development site it then allows that site to be developed, subject to planning permission being granted. The Order would only be confirmed following planning permission being granted. Secondly, we have negotiated what is in effect a highway land swap. I.e. the stippled land will become dedicated as highway following the stopping up of the hatched land. This would allow the highway authority, at a future date, to carry out a Balmer Road improvement scheme. I would stress at this stage that any future scheme would need to go through a priority process as with any maintenance/improvement scheme being considered. We are unable therefore to give the Parish Council any timescale of when a scheme would come forward. Nevertheless, as set out above, it does future proof the land necessary to implement a highway scheme."*

The parish council welcomed the intention to preserve the land for future highway improvements and therefore did not wish to object to the proposal.

v. *Parish maps* – clerk to request maps

vi. *Supporting the North Shropshire growth plan and development of the SPEN electrical infrastructure* – invite to event on 28th June – Cllr. Symes to attend.

*Cllr. Jefferies left the meeting*

**274/16 Highways matters**

a. **A495, Newton Bends roadworks** – the works have now been completed.

**275/16 Date of future meeting and agenda items**

Council Meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> July 2016

*It was resolved to consider the following items with exclusion of press and public as they concern matters relating to an individual and contractual matters*

**276/16 Clerk's Hours and standing order for salary**

It was **RESOLVED** to maintain the Clerk's hours at 7.5 hours per week. It was further **RESOLVED** to reduce the number of newsletters to 2 per annum, with an extra one if required and that councillors would put up notices (Cllr. Symes – Lyneal, Cllrs. Haydon/Dinsdale – Welshampton, Cllr. Withington – Colemere). It was further **RESOLVED** to sign a standing order instruction for the Clerk's salary

**277/16 Phone box**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve a revised quote for repairs, to take account of cost repairing the glass was approved.

Signed (Chairman).....

Dated.....