



Keeping YOU Informed

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council's Local Newsletter

Issue 26 - February 2017

Hello and welcome....

to the latest edition of your parish newsletter. It has been a busy few months for the Parish Council with planning, speeding and Colemere Countryside Heritage Site being key issues. The Council has also set its budget and has held the precept at the same level per Band D household for the third year running.

On 4th May 2017, there will be elections for the Parish Council and Shropshire Council. Parishioners can stand for election to the Parish Council, provided they meet certain statutory criteria. As you will see from the newsletter, the Parish Council is very active and meets monthly, normally on the fourth Wednesday. If you would like to find out about what being a councillor involves, please speak to the Clerk or any councillor.

Andrew Haydon, Chairman of Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

Colemere Countryside Heritage Site



Shropshire Council will be maintaining the Country Parks and Heritage Sites for the 2017-18 financial year; this includes Colemere Countryside Heritage Site. Shropshire Council is also considering how these sites can be funded after next year. A membership scheme has been introduced. The Parish Council has also been asked to consider raising its precept to contribute towards the ongoing running costs of Colemere. The increase suggested by Shropshire Council is in the region of 10 to 12p per Band D household per week, equivalent to a total of circa £1800 to £2000 on the overall parish precept. We would welcome parishioners' views on this.

Shropshire Council is also planning to consult on introducing car parking charges at Colemere. We will ensure this is publicised on the Parish Council website. There are a number of issues that need to be carefully considered, such as impact on parking at other nearby places, including the church.

Local Plan Review

Shropshire Council has commenced a partial review of the Local Plan, the aim being to adopt the reviewed Plan in 2018. Once adopted, the Plan will supersede the Core Strategy and SAMDEV and set a development framework for the period to 2036. Shropshire Council is currently carrying out the first stage of public consultation, on Issues and Strategic Options, for the partial Local Plan Review. You can view the consultation at: <http://new.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/local-plan-partial-review-issues-and-strategic-options-consultation/>. Responses must be submitted by 20th March.

Wood Lane Quarry

A revised application for a biomass plant at Tudor Griffiths' Wood Lane site has been submitted. The Parish Council has raised objections to this application, fundamentally because it is concerned that the application does not demonstrate and assess the impact of the proposed development. The full objection can be read on Shropshire Council's website. We are also liaising with Tudor Griffiths to ask that during and after construction of the quarry extension, the impact on the local area is minimised.

Speeding

The Parish Plan identified speeding as being a significant concern, in particular in Welshampton. The Parish Council is committed to ensuring this is addressed. Parish Councils have limited direct powers when it comes to addressing speeding so it is vital to work with other agencies. The Safer Roads Partnership for West Mercia has gathered data on existing speeds in Welshampton. At the time of writing, we are waiting to see the data collected. When we have the information, it will be presented at a Council meeting.

Parish Council Meetings 2017

All meetings are held in Welshampton Parish Hall and start at 7pm, unless otherwise stated. The public may attend & speak in the public session.

22nd Feb. & 22nd March

26th April

26th April

18th May

Council Meetings

Annual Parish Meeting 7pm

Council meeting at 7.30pm

Annual Council meeting

Welshampton Parish Hall News

The main concern of our committee is to continue to upgrade the hall's facilities. To do this, we need to apply for grants, and to do this successfully we require evidence of need for the funding. This was the purpose of the questionnaire we recently circulated. May I thank all 49 residents who responded to this. Thanks also to the C.E.O. of Shropshire C.A.B. (Jackie Jeffrey) who enabled us to use their freepost facility. Your responses gave clear evidence that upgrading the carpark is your main concern. We are now seeking quotes to support a landfill grant to address this.

Our questionnaire showed that many of you had ideas for all sorts of activities. These included a tennis club, a play group, a youth group, language lessons, craft groups, coffee mornings, fitness groups, more singing and more dancing. Please contact us if you need help to set these up.

We have also been made aware of the state of the floor in the hall by Mr Frank Davies. When he built the hall, a beautiful sprung floor was put into the auditorium. This requires careful and regular maintenance by flooring specialists, which is now overdue.

On a more positive note, the Parish Council have funded the installation of WiFi, and this should be available by the time you read this. This support is gratefully accepted.

Two committee members have started a monthly Craft and Laugh Club. It meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. The small charge of £5 per person includes refreshments. For more information contact Lisa Fisher (710464) or Janice Fletcher (710398). They are also on Facebook.

Many of you will have had the opportunity over the years to enjoy live Arts Council performances. These are organised by Mary Keith and have included both British and international musicians, singers and actors. We have no dates or information available at present but these will be made available as soon as possible. Tickets for these events sell

very quickly and many performers are also willing to run excellent workshops.

The following are events you may wish to put into your diary:

March 3 Family Ceilidh dance, music and supper with Hilary Evans and Devil's Chair. You need no prior experience to join the dancing. Villagers of all ages enjoy these events. Tickets can be bought from committee members at 710859, or at the door. Thanks to Hilary and John Evans for their ongoing generosity in providing these wonderful evenings. Bar provided. To book your own Ceilidh contact them on 710620.

April 1 Car boot/ table top sale. Set up will be 8.30am and it will open at 9.30am. Car boots £5 and table tops £7.50. Refreshments will be available. Tickets available from Rosemary Drake (710576).

May 1 Welshampton Plant Fair. Sales begin at 12 noon. Parking is available opposite the hall. Refreshments available.

June 10 Craft Fair. Another new initiative, still at the planning stage. If you are interested in selling goods or would like an opportunity to participate in the organisation of this event, please contact Lisa Fisher (710464).

September Age UK Quiz night. This is another enjoyable charity event. You just require a team of 4 to participate. Excellent supper and bar available. Date & further details to be published in next edition.

October 14 Family Ceilidh. As for March.

Should you wish to book the hall for an event of your own, please contact us on 710859. Please note that under the Licensing Act 2003 the hall's licence was granted on the mandatory condition that no alcohol can be consumed unless purchased on site. We are aware that this is a nuisance but should you do so we could lose our licence and be fined.

Welshampton Parish Hall Management Committee

Update from Connecting Shropshire



Connecting Shropshire is a multi-million pound programme to bring fibre broadband to the parts of the Shropshire Council area where private companies are not going to provide it as part of their current commercial plans. To date, the programme has provided access to fibre broadband for many homes and businesses across a range of exchange areas. More than 58,000 premises are now within reach of the new network that we've built. The programme is due to complete by 2020.

To date, Connecting Shropshire has provided access to fibre broadband for around 200 premises in parts of Balmer, Hampton Bank, Lyneal, Northwood and Welshampton villages. Further work, planned for later in 2017, is projected to bring some premises in Colemere within reach of a fibre broadband service.

Update from Connecting Shropshire continued...

Once fibre broadband is available in an area, people wanting to access the new network need to make the switch by upgrading to a fibre broadband package with their chosen internet service provider. Parishioners can visit our website: <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/when-and-where/> to check the availability of fibre broadband. If fibre broadband is not available, there are alternatives that parishioners can use to improve their current broadband speed in the meantime, such as: 4G mobile, wireless or satellite broadband, see: <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/alternative-broadband-solutions/>.

Connecting Shropshire is participating in the national Government Scheme to provide a better broadband service to all those premises in the Shropshire Council area that cannot access a basic broadband service (with download speeds in excess of 2mbps). The Better Broadband Subsidy Scheme is now open for applications and can provide support towards the cost of the installation of a satellite/fixed wireless broadband connection. For more details, see: <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/basic-broadband-subsidy-scheme/>.

Phase 2b procurement

The following map from our recent State Aid Public Consultation: <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/public-consultation/> indicates that a large number of premises in the parish are not expected to benefit from existing or future plans to provide superfast broadband. These are marked with a yellow dot and are included in our next procurement, worth around £11.7m, which was launched at the beginning of November 2016, for more information visit: <http://connectingshropshire.co.uk/phase-2b-procurement/>. The procurement is expected to be concluded in April 2017, when we should have a better idea of which premises will benefit from this additional investment.



Queries

If parishioners have specific queries, they should email connecting.shropshire@shropshire.gov.uk, with their question as well as providing their address and landline number.

Newhampton C. of E. Schools Federation

The Newhampton C. of E. Schools Federation has been operating for seven months now and there has been wonderful progress. There are currently 71 children registered at Welshampton and 148 children at Newtown. Key highlights include:

- A significant investment in I.T. equipment, updating servers, Wi-Fi and educational software so that each school is offering up-to-date technology for learning.
- Key Stage 2 SATs outcomes in each school compare very favourably with national & local results.
- Year 6 children from each school visited the Houses of Parliament in London.
- All children have been given the opportunity to be involved in additional sport activities together – football, tag rugby, athletics.

Camilla Bruce, Chair of Governors

Parish Paths Partnership -Volunteers?

Parish Paths Partnerships are groups of volunteers who carry out maintenance of public rights of way; some funding is available. If you would be willing to volunteer for this, please contact the Clerk.

Welshampton Plant Fair Monday 1st May, noon to 3pm

The village's 12th annual charity fair will be held in the Parish Hall, with thousands of great plants on offer. The Grand Plant Sale, with all plants grown by our own dedicated team, will again be followed by the excitement of the "Special Plants" Auction with lots donated by top gardeners and horticulturalists.

Accompanying stalls will again include home-made cakes and preserves, the popular Gardeners' Stall and raffle with great prizes, plus delicious refreshments to enjoy.

A warm welcome to all (guide dogs only, please!) so do come and enjoy the relaxed and friendly atmosphere and meet up with friends and neighbours.

All proceeds again to Shropshire Macmillan Cancer Relief & Welshampton Church.

Follow Welshampton Plant Fair news and build-up to the day on Facebook

Contact Information

Keeping YOU Informed is produced by:
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Rebecca Turner on 01743 741611
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www.welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk

Useful Contact Details

Parish Council

Welshampton Ward	Lyneal Ward
Andrew Haydon (Chair)	Chris Symes (Vice Chair)
Mike Dinsdale	Lawrence Houghton MBE
Sarah Jefferies	Martin Withington
Bob Richards	
Mark Standen	
Jennifer Wright	

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

Shropshire Council 0345 678 9000
customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk
www.shropshire.gov.uk

Shropshire Councillor
Brian Williams 01939 234198

Emergency Contacts
In most emergencies you should dial 999 or 112
For non - emergencies
West Mercia Police 101
Shropshire Fire & Rescue 01743 260200
West Mids Ambulance Service 01743 273649

Community Contacts
Welshampton Parish Hall
wphmanagement1@gmail.com 01948 710859

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