



Keeping YOU Informed

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council's Local Newsletter

Issue 20 - October 2014

Hello and welcome....

to the autumn edition of your Parish Council newsletter. The highest level of government of the land may have had a long recess, but not your local Parish Council as all local government activities carry on as normal, including meetings during the summer holiday period. And it has been a particularly busy summer with regard to housing development issues in the parish, and the refresh of the Parish Plan, both covered in more detail herein.

Much of the Parish Council's influence on development in our parish has been taken out of its hands through Shropshire Council's failure to have an approved Site Allocation and Management of Development Policy (known as SAMDev) in place, meaning that the National Development Framework (known as NPPF) is over-riding, across the county. This situation exists until the SAMDev is approved by the government inspector, possibly in 2015.

However, the Parish Plan is still fully in local control and whilst the Parish Council is presently the guiding authority you, the residents of the parish, are the owners. Nearly 100 households responded to the refresh questionnaire and we now ask them and everyone else to attend the next public meeting on 29th October when we hope to be able to "sign off" the Parish Plan. If you ever find yourself thinking – "Why doesn't somebody do something about?" Well, now's your chance to do something about it.

Another area where you have the opportunity to influence the community is through the "Place Plan" which, very basically, can decide how any monies the Parish Council receives through development, is spent. The contact of each and every group in the community, be it social, educational, religious, business, or leisure, will receive a detailed letter from the Parish Council explaining how to respond. So, at your next meeting, get-together or event, whatever, decide how your organisation is going to respond.

As always, I hope that this newsletter achieves its objective of keeping you informed about your Parish Council's activities.

Chris Symes

New Residential Homes in Welshampton - Update

The Parish Council drew your attention to the number of planning applications for new housing in Welshampton in the last newsletter in July. Since then, 7 houses at the site in the middle of the village, 7 at the site opposite the Methodist Chapel and 3 behind the primary school have received approval in principle from Shropshire Council. There is one application for 10 houses from those discussed at Parish Meetings still to be determined.

The applicants whose applications have been decided on are now in the process of completing the legal documents

before planning permission is formally granted.

Residents can track progress through the Shropshire Council's website:

<http://new.shropshire.gov.uk/planning/applications/viewing-planning-applications/>

Shropshire Council will determine the applications with reference to local (county) and national planning policies, but the Parish Council will continue to express the view of the majority of the residents even if it is contrary to local and national policy.

'Get Us Connected' Campaign

It could be said that the only disadvantage of living in North Shropshire is the poor connection to mobile phone and internet services.

You will be pleased to hear that Shropshire Council and the Shropshire Star have launched a petition to lobby the Government and network companies to improve the signal in the county.

If you would like to add your support to this campaign go to: www.change.org or use the link on the Parish Council's website under the Community section.

Flu Jabs

This year there will be a change from the previous system of 2 days' drop-in flu jab clinics in the Comrades Club. Any patients registered with Ellesmere Medical Practice who are over 65 or have any health issues making it advisable for them to be protected against 'flu should contact the surgery to book an appointment at one of the clinics being run at the surgery from 1 October.

There is no need to wait for an invitation letter or reminder - patients should just drop in or ring 01691 622798 / 623256 and speak to the receptionist. The 'flu jab does NOT give you 'flu. No-one pretends injections are pleasant, but any discomfort is minor and very short-lived - and is far, far less unpleasant than catching real 'flu!

Walking in the Parish

The booklet of 5 walks are being distributed locally and across North Shropshire. The Parish Council would like every home in the Parish to have a booklet, take the opportunity to try out the walks and maybe learn a little history about the area at the same time!

It is not feasible to post a pack out to everyone but supplies have been given to the churches, The Sun, caravan parks, schools, hairdresser and garage. When you're passing one of these establishments please pop in and ask for a folder. The Council would also welcome your feedback,

Meeting Dates

Council Meetings - start 7pm

Wednesday 22 October
Wednesday 26 November
Wednesday 17 December

All meetings are in the Parish Hall

Welshampton Church of England Primary School

As those of you who pass the School will have seen, there have been some big changes to the inside and outside of the school. The new fencing around the play ground and field is now complete, new play equipment has been installed in the field, new windows in Class 1 and much needed decoration in the class rooms. The fencing was required to keep the school secure not just when children are about but out of school hours too.

I am also pleased to report the first stage of improving and upgrading our technology is complete. New laptops have been purchased and existing ones have been upgraded to Windows 7. The next stage will be to purchase some tablets for the children to use when they work outside.

We value the chance to celebrate every child's achievement and we would very much like you to be part of this celebration. This term we have introduced holding our Celebration Assembly in Church every Friday

New websites

Both the Primary School and Caterpillars, the Preschool, launched new websites this school term. Please take a look at them and follow what is going on at these very important places.
www.welshamptonceprimary.co.uk and
www.caterpillarsmontessori.co.uk.
or follow the links on the Parish Council's website home page.

www.facebook.com/welshamptonlynealandcolemerecommunity



Visit us on
Facebook

afternoon at 2.40pm. We warmly invite all parents, extended family and those who are interested in the school to join us in Church as we announce our Stars of the Week, present merit certificates, share excellent work and personal achievements whilst also praising God and giving thanks for our talents, families, friends and community here in Welshampton.

Finally, thank you to all who supported our coffee afternoon in aid of Macmillan Cancer charity. You all raised a total of £184.50. I would especially like to thank Miss Evans for organising such a lovely afternoon, everyone who donated cakes and the children for showing visitors all around our school with such pride. It was great to have the school full of parents and other visitors and hear so many positive comments about how good the school, playground and field are looking.

Mrs Heather Cawkwell
Head Teacher

Community Action Officer

Some of you will have met Sue Thomas at recent parish meetings but if you were not aware, Sue is Shropshire Council's Community Action Officer for our area and is there to work with and for people in local communities.

Her role is to support people in communities to take control of their lives, and to live in a place where they feel happy and safe, and where they can feel a sense of pride and ownership. If you need help with a community project contact Sue on 01939 237453 or sue.j.thomas@shropshire.gov.uk

Important Parish Meeting to announce the results of the refresh of the Parish Plan Questionnaire.

**Wednesday 29 October at 7.30pm
Welshampton & Lyneal Parish Hall**

Why should you attend?

Parish Plans provide a comprehensive and holistic vision for the Parish and involve the community in identifying what is important to them.

The Plan presents a shared vision for the community to use for years to come. It is produced *'by the community for the community'*; so it is important that everyone in the community has an opportunity to have their say.

This meeting will also focus on action through the agreement of an Action Plan which will detail specific actions and identify who will be responsible for implementing them.

'Place Plans'

The concept of Place Plans was introduced by Shropshire Council in 2011 as a way to document the aims and aspirations of towns and villages. There are 18 Place Plans each focused around a market town and its surrounding rural parishes. Our Parish's entry is included in the Ellesmere Place Plan, Ellesmere being our nearest market town.

This year Shropshire Council is expanding the content and purpose of the Place Plan to include wider investment needs and services (see below for more detail) and when completed, it will document all local priorities within an area with the aim that current and future resources will be targeted appropriately. To achieve this Shropshire Council will share the Place Plan with its partners. Partners can range from Severn Trent Water and the Environment Agency to local developers and Ellesmere Medical Practice; in fact anyone who has an interest in our Parish, its residents and associated community facilities.

The Ellesmere Place Plan is therefore an important document as it provides an opportunity for the Parish Council to build on the requirements identified in the Parish Plan. The Place Plan will combine the "bottom up" requirements and aspirations from our community with "top down" policies and statutory obligations originating in Shropshire Council.

The Council is asking for your help with the Parish entry by considering the following:

Wider investment needs and services

What are the investment needs and services within our Parish, not including new housing, which will support the future sustainability of the community?

For example:

- Enhancement of the local environment, footpaths and bridleways
- Regular maintenance of ditches and gulleys.

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Hall

We hope everyone has had a lovely Summer. Here at the Hall we have been busy with lots of exciting events being held from the Big Weekend where they had bands from as far as Louisiana, USA playing over the weekend to more recently the sell-out Rope String Band and Pacific Curls. We will place posters around the village of upcoming events so keep an eye out if you want a good night out locally.

Bingo has now re-started after the summer break so why not come along and join in the fun. Doors open at 7pm for eyes down at 7.30pm and we offer free refreshments during the break. Bingo takes place the 3rd Wednesday of every month and Whist takes place on the 1st Saturday of the month with all proceeds of both going back to the hall.

For bookings contact Lorraine Jones on 01948 710687, email lojo41@btinternet.com. Look forward to seeing you all soon,

Caroline Hamilton.
Chair, Welshampton Parish Hall

- Expansion of the Community Transport Scheme

Development related infrastructure

We must also review the infrastructure needs within our Parish which are associated with new housing. These infrastructure needs can be grouped as physical, economic, social and green infrastructure.

The important part at this stage is to identify all the infrastructure, needs, services and aspirations of our Parish. Please give it some thought and forward comments to the Parish Clerk. By doing this, it will mean the final document, following this year's review, is a full and complete representation of the Parish.

