



Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Plan 2015



Introduction to the Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Plan 2015

The Parish of Welshampton and Lyneal is located in the northern part of North Shropshire countryside between the historic market towns of Whitchurch and Ellesmere. Over the years, like many others, the parish has seen its fair share of change; from a thriving homestead for the farming community to a much more diverse population. Yet despite these changes it still manages to retain the pleasant nature of a typical Shropshire parish.

The Parish Council serves the communities of Welshampton, Colemere, Lyneal, Breadon Heath, Balmer Heath and Newton and is represented by nine councillors.

The parish countryside has spectacular scenery, interesting wildlife and a unique landscape of rolling sandstone hills, meres and mosses. The nine meres in and close to the parish were carved out by glaciers during the last ice age over 15,000 years ago.

The first Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Plan was published in 2008 and was based on the answers to questions posted in a questionnaire sent to all

households. Copies of the Plan can be accessed by visiting the Parish Council's website:

www.welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk

After 6 years of working through the 2008 plan it was necessary to review it in 2014. The review was conducted by analysing answers to questions contained in a fresh questionnaire which was distributed one to each household at the beginning of February 2014 and completed questionnaires returned by 28 March 2014.

367 questionnaires were distributed, 83 were completed and returned. The Community Council of Shropshire (CCS) considered this 22% return to be a good and statistically reliable result when the completed questionnaire was independently analysed using their computer software for this purpose. The results were analysed by members of the Rural Services Team at CCS.

The questionnaire responses and CCS analysis have been used to formulate this 2015 Parish Plan.



Review of the progress of the 2008 Plan

The questionnaire set out the objectives and achievements from the 2008 plan and respondents were asked to rate overall progress against these as good, satisfactory or poor.

The actual results were
 Poor: 2 (3%)
 Satisfactory: 32 (48.5%)
 Good: 32 (48.5%)

Sixty-six people responded to this question. Almost all respondents were at least satisfied with the progress made towards the objectives set out in the 2008 plan. Just under half of the respondents felt progress had been good.

***“You are doing a first class job,
keep up the good work”***

THEME	OBJECTIVE	ACHIEVEMENTS
IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS NEEDED TO INFORM THE COMMUNITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Create a newsletter and/or website * Use newspaper to communicate with the Parish * Consider extra notice board at the Parish Hall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Newsletter established and issued at least 3 times a year to all properties in the parish. Website created. * Parish Council meetings advertised in newspapers. * Notice Board installed July 2008.
INTEREST SHOWN IN INTERNET ACCESS/ HOMEWORK FACILITIES AND ADULT EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Approach relevant authorities regarding Broadband and its quality. * Investigate possible venues and classes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Monitoring Shropshire Council ‘Connecting Shropshire’ project. * Article placed in Parish Newsletter June 2009 consulting on possible classes and internet access. No response received.
THE SUN INN IN WELSHAMPTON REMAINS CLOSED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Contact other areas that overcome similar problems for experiences and advice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Re-opened July 2012
CLUB/ACTIVITIES REQUIRED FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Advertise current services. * Consult youth. * Contact relevant authorities with regard to play schemes and youth activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Youth Club re-opened during 2009 for short period and was run by the youth. * Youth Bus attended Parish Hall on Monday evenings during term time for a period of time.
LACK OF PROVISION FOR CYCLING IN AREA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Support initiatives. * Apply for a cycle rack grant. * Liaise with Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Cycle rack installed at Parish Hall June 2008. * Cycle tourism website set up March 2013. * Cycle Safari 2013.

THEME	OBJECTIVE	ACHIEVEMENTS
FOOTPATHS, TOWPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS REQUIRE MAINTENANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Create a Parish Paths Partnership * Highlight areas where surface/stiles/obstructions a problem * Produce walking leaflets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Parish Paths Partnership set up November 2008 * Canal towpath repairs still being pursued with the support of the Meres and Mosses Landscape project. * Walking leaflets published Spring 2014.
SOME AREAS REQUIRE ROAD MAINTENANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Provide details of Shropshire Council Customer Service Helpline * Bring specific locations to their notice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Phone number and article in newsletter. * 'Highways' is a standard agenda item for Council meetings.
GULLEY CLEARANCE CONSIDERED POOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Forward report highlighting problem areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Details of areas requested through newsletter. No response received.
SPEEDING TRAFFIC IS PROBLEM IN THE PARISH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Identify key areas * Undertake surveys * Investigate Quiet Lanes Scheme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * A495 (east and west) into Welshampton and B5063 along The Balmer have been recorded under Shropshire Council Road Safety Scheme * Quiet Lanes Scheme withdrawn by Shropshire Council.
CARS PARKING IN PASSING PLACES, VERGES AND ON PAVEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Erect signs in passing places * Contact police or provide 'Please Do Not Park Here' tickets for cars parked on pavements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Car Park for use by School, Church and other community events created in Stocks Lane. * Signs and 'Do Not Park Here' tickets not requested by residents.
LACK OF VISIBILITY OF POLICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Inform CSO of questionnaire feedback * Publish Local CSO contact information * Nominate representatives to attend PACT meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Established good working relationship with local policing team. * Local Joint Committee meetings have replaced PACT meetings and Parish is represented at those meetings. * Parish Council responds to all Police surveys and consultations.



THEME	OBJECTIVE	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p>HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IS BROADLY SUPPORTED USING INFILL SITES OR CONVERSION OF EXISTING BUILDINGS IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:</p> <p>SHELTERED FOR THE ELDERLY, ASSOCIATION HOUSING, LOW-COST STARTER HOMES, FAMILY HOMES</p> <p>(No executive, large single-site properties or new sites)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Notify planning authorities of findings * Highlight concerns regarding the over-loading of infrastructure * Reiterate the fact that the Welshampton Design Statement is still a relevant reference and is held by the Planning Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Parish Plan adopted as a Planning document and is classed as a material consideration when reviewing planning applications. * Welshampton Design Statement is still a material consideration when reviewing planning applications * Meetings held with Development Control Officers. * Public and Parish meetings held when required to seek guidance from residents to future development. * The Parish Council's response to Shropshire Council following the SAMDev consultation: <p>Acceptable development in Welshampton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Sites should be mixed tenure and design * Maximum 5 dwellings per site * Maximum total number of 20 dwellings * Keep the Development Boundary as under NSDC Local Plan 2001 – 2011 <p>Acceptable development in Lyneal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Maximum total number of 5 properties. * To have the Development Boundary as specified in NSDC Local Plan 1991 – 2001 with one amendment to restrict the Boundary to the west boundary of the Guide Activity Centre. <p>No new open market development</p>

“Consulting and updating on key issues likely to affect the parish has been excellent!”



THEME	OBJECTIVE	ACHIEVEMENTS
PROBLEMS WITH MAINS WATER AT HAMPTON WOOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Investigate further * Contact providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Details of properties effected requested through newsletter. No response received.
SOME IN THE PARISH WOULD LIKE MAINS GAS AND SEWAGE DEPENDENT ON COST.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Contact providers regarding feasibility 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Letter received from Wales and West Utilities in February 2009 outlining costs to provide gas to parish. The high cost makes this project prohibitive.
MANY PEOPLE SHOWED AN INTEREST IN 'GREEN ISSUES'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Explore alternative sources of energy * Undertake an energy audit of the Parish Hall * Hold a local 'Green Day' event * Expand Environmental Group to include Welshampton * Switch street lights off during night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Community Green Day held March 2010 * Sustainable Energy Feasibility Study of Parish Hall carried out. Report dated September 2010 * Environmental Group disbanded. * 50% of residents do not support switching street lights off during night.
SUPPORT FOR BEST KEPT VILLAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Set up Action Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Article placed in Newsletter asking for interested residents to contact Council. No response received.
DOG FOULING, FLY-TIPPING A GENERAL PROBLEM. ALSO MATERIAL BLOWING OFF LANDFILL SITE.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Contact Dog Warden with regard to problem areas * Encourage parishioners to report fly tipping to NSDC * Inform people of permits available for tipping at council sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Additional dog waste bins provided in Parish. * Newsletter articles have covered fly tipping and permits at re-cycling centres. * Wood Lane Liaison Group set up. Membership includes Tudor Griffiths, the Parish Council, Colemere Residents Assoc. and Shropshire Council.
AIRCRAFT AND HELICOPTERS ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PARISH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Publish contact details and encourage reporting incidents to Shawbury 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Article in newsletter. Contact number in newsletter. * Visit to RAF Shawbury by local residents in January 2009 * Parish Council is a member of the Helicopter Liaison Group which meets at RAF Shawbury.

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Plan 2015

Action Plan

The questionnaire set out a series of key objectives for the 2015 Parish Plan, based on some objectives carried forward from the 2008 plan and feedback from residents. Responders were asked to state if they agreed or disagreed to have these objectives included in the 2015 Parish Plan.

It should be noted that the people who responded did not necessarily answer all of the questions but the vast majority of responders agreed with the inclusion of all key objectives.



THEME	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS
HOUSING AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT	To maintain the character of the Parish.	Continue to support development of Welshampton and Lyneal villages in line with Parish's response to the SAMDev consultation and statement made in the 2008 Parish Plan.
		Continue to support no open market development in all other areas of the Parish.
	Partners: Shropshire Council	Priority (Timescale): On-going
EDUCATION FACILITIES	To ensure the Pre-School and Primary School continue to provide education to the young children of the Parish.	Explore new ways of working, including the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy, with the leadership teams of both schools to support their plans for the buildings.
	Partners: Shropshire Council, Welshampton C of E Primary School and Welshampton Pre School	Priority (Timescale): Medium (by 2017/18)

THEME	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS
PARISH HALL	To ensure the Parish Hall is developed and maintained for the benefit of all parishioners	1. Support the Hall Committee with improvements to the building and car park eg move bar, enlarge and improve kitchen facilities, provide better storage facilities and re-surface car park.
		2. Encourage more use of the Parish Hall with conference and training facilities including IT courses.
		3. Equip the tennis court to provide football and netball/basketball facilities.
		4. Provide internet access (Wi-Fi).
	Partners: 1. Parish Hall Management Committee and CCS. 2,3 and 4 Parish Hall Management Committee	Priority (Timescale): 1 and 2 Medium (by 2017/18) 3 and 4 Short (by 2015/16)
COMMUNITY TRANSPORT	To ensure parishioners who have no access to public transport are not isolated.	1. Promote Community Transport schemes eg North Salop Wheelers.
		2. Encourage parishioners to become volunteers.
	Partners: 1. NS Wheelers and CCS. 2. NS Wheelers	Priority (Timescale): On-going
SPEEDING TRAFFIC	To ensure Shropshire Council conducts regular reviews of traffic volume and speed on the major roads through the Parish.	1. Continue to report specific incidents to Shropshire Council and the Police.
		2. Continue to use Shropshire Council's Road Safety Policy to record community concerns.
	Partners: Shropshire Council and West Mercia Police	Priority (Timescale): On-going

"B5063***30 mph speed limit on the Balmer/Balmer Heath - a PRIORITY"***

“I would like to see planting of young trees to replace the magnificent mature ones approaching end of life.”

THEME	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS
TOURISM	To improve information and promotion of local facilities, services and activities.	1. Work with local businesses and groups to investigate the possibility of producing a local visitor offer which describes the variety of facilities and services available in the Parish, and to consider the best ways to promote.
		2. Create a series of visitor itineraries relating to the meres, villages and surrounding countryside.
		3. Improve the Parish web presence.
		4. Request regular updates from the Canal and River Trust (CART) on repairs, maintenance and improvements to the canal and towpaths.
	Partners: 1 and 2. Shropshire Council and Local Businesses 4. CART	Priority (Timescale): 1 and 2 Medium (by 2017/18) 3 and 4 Short (by 2015/16)
BROADBAND SPEED AND MOBILE PHONE RECEPTION	To ensure infrastructure is of a level to enable Parishioners to fully access these services.	Lobby Shropshire Council and other bodies to ensure all avenues to improve services are investigated and actioned.
	Partners: Shropshire Council and BT	Priority (Timescale): On-going
LOCAL LANDSCAPE	To understand and celebrate the local landscape and have a say in its future management	Work with the Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Scheme to run a series of projects to document the heritage of the area and future management plans.
	Partners: Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Scheme	Priority (Timescale): Long (By 2019)

THEME	OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS
COMMUNITY FACILITIES	To provide additional and permanent facilities in Welshampton, Lyneal and Colemere.	1. Install seating/picnic tables at 'stopping off' points for walkers and visitors.
		2. Provide permanent playing areas which are open to all.
	Partners: 1. Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Scheme and Shropshire Council. 2. Local land owners	Priority (Timescale): Long (By 2019)
ROADS AND LANES	To improve condition of roads and lanes to make them safer for all users including pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders.	1. Continue regular communication with Shropshire Council's Highways Dept.
		2. Publicise the reporting procedures for potholes, damaged road surfaces, flooding and fly tipping.
		3. Provide pelican crossing along the A495.
	Partners: Shropshire Council	Priority (Timescale): 1. and 2. On-going 3. Long (By 2019)
STREET FURNITURE	To improve services and signage in the Parish.	1. Upgrade street lighting to a more sustainable and efficient level.
		2. Provide signage that depicts the heritage, history and culture of the villages they represent.
	Partners: 1. Shropshire Council 2. Local historians, artists and crafts people.	Priority (Timescale): Long (By 2019)



Conclusion

Of all of the actions suggested for inclusion in the 2015 plan, none of these received significant disagreement from respondents. No more than 14 people disagreed with any of the suggested actions.

What happens next?

Your Parish Council will be working with the identified partners to progress the Action Plan. Volunteers are welcomed to assist.

If you would like to get involved, please contact the Parish Clerk, Carole Warner.

Email: clerk@welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk

Tel: 01948 710672

Orchard Cottage
Rowe Lane
Welshampton
SY12 0QB



Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Plan 2015

Document prepared December 2014 Version 1.0

Printed by Imprint 01686 624137