



Keeping YOU Informed

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council's Local Newsletter

Issue 28 - November 2017

Hello and welcome....

Yet again it's been a really busy time for the Parish Council since our last newsletter. Firstly I'd like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome our new Priest in Charge of the Benefice of the Meres and Meadows, the Reverend Maureen Reed. On behalf of all at the Parish council may I say we hope you enjoy your time with us.

We are continuing to devote time and energy to planning, which is always high on our agenda. We have also seen some results from the work we've been doing on speed monitoring in the village and The Balmer. I'm sure you will all have noticed the poppies we arranged to be displayed throughout the villages. It was a privilege for us to be able to arrange this fitting memorial. I'd like to thank Tudor Griffiths, our largest local employer, for their recent co-operation to develop a closer working relationship with the Parish Council. We do appreciate their time and effort and look forward to further developing a working partnership through 2018. We have also welcomed Guy Wellsbury to the Council representing Welshampton Ward.

As winter approaches and the nights grow longer all our thoughts turn to the festive season. And so may I wish you on behalf of the Parish Council; Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Andrew Haydon
Chairman of Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

Important Parish Meeting Future Development in the Parish and Drainage in Welshampton Village Wednesday 6 December 7pm Welshampton Parish Hall.

In the last edition of the newsletter we explained Shropshire Council is currently reviewing its key Planning Policies. We also explained that the Parish Council had concerns with the direction Shropshire Council was taking with development in the rural areas. The Parish Council was not alone with these concerns and Shropshire Council has listened. In the latest consultation on the 'Preferred Options' Shropshire Council has amended some of its new Rural Policies.

Under the current planning policies, Welshampton and Lyneal are classed as a Cluster but the Parish Council was sufficiently concerned with the proposed policies and the lack of key services in the Parish it requested both villages be classed as 'countryside' for the time being. This means no open market new development can take place. Shropshire Council has respected this decision and the villages are not listed as a Cluster in the new consultation document. However, the amended policies in the consultation document do give some assurance that development can be controlled.

The Parish Council is keen to know your views as to whether Welshampton and Lyneal should remain as a Cluster or be classed as 'countryside'.

We encourage you to review Shropshire Council's 'Preferred Options' and come to this important meeting to let the Council know your views. Use this link to access the documents:

<http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/get-involved/local-plan-review-preferred-scale-and-distribution-of-development/>

The main concern with further development in Welshampton is the reliance on septic tanks and treatment plants for foul and surface water. Reports of foul water seeping into ditches and water courses are increasing. The Parish Council has been investigating options available to resolve some of the drainage problems.

Having consulted with Shropshire Council and the Environment Agency we are now liaising with Welsh Water, the company responsible for foul water for Welshampton. Discussions are at an early stage and the implications of any request for formal investigations by Welsh Water will need serious consideration. We will share at the meeting our investigations so far.

**Please do come along to the meeting on
6 December. We need to hear your views.**

Hedges next to highways

The Parish Council has been asked to remind all land owners and occupiers of their duties and responsibilities if they manage hedges next to the highway. Land owner and occupiers must ensure

- * nesting birds and other wild animals are not disturbed by hedge cutting;
- * hedges and trees do not cause an overhanging hazard or other obstruction to the highway;
- * Growth from hedges and trees does not restrict visibility of road signs and street lights, and
- * Clippings from hedge cutting activities do not cause a highway hazard.

It is the last of these points that causes most concern to highway users, walkers and vehicle drivers. Landowners and occupiers should ensure that when trimming hedges the work is carried out in good visibility and to try to avoid using machinery that spits hedge debris into the highway. You should also ensure that contractors have adequate insurance as operators and/or landowner/occupiers could be held liable if an accident is caused which arises from a careless action from the operator.

Meeting Dates

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

The Council has decided to change the schedule of meetings from the fourth Wednesday to the second Wednesday. Dates for the next few meetings are below:

Wednesday 13 December
Wednesday 10 January
Wednesday 14 February
Wednesday 14 March

Welshampton Parish Hall

It's been a season of significant change at the Hall. It was with great regret we received the resignations of the Chair of the Management Committee, Rosemary Drake, and the Secretary, Jennifer Wright. The Management Committee, on behalf of all at the Hall, wish to express their gratitude to Rosemary and Jennifer for their leadership, time and dedication leading to our success over recent years.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on the 9th of October and a new Committee was elected to continue to manage the Hall, we are working hard to pick up all duties and responsibilities to ensure normal service continues.

Parish Halls are important community hubs. We are a charity which acts as a central focus for many kinds of activities. Our remit is wide and services we provide include social, entertainment and education. The Hall is available for hire for private functions, details below. Yet the Hall can only be successful if its supported fully by the community it serves. The new Committee currently has only six members, at full strength we should be twelve. We are looking for six new members to join us and we'd be happy to hear from anyone who would like to take this opportunity to volunteer for this rewarding role. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Hall on 01948 710964.

To provide more timely details of events and activities during the coming months we plan to refresh our website and our facebook page and will announce details soon.

The Parish Hall's notice boards contain announcements of events. Space is limited in newsletters, so the following is just a taster of the activities to the end of this year.

Sequence Dancing every Monday from 7:30 pm.

Bingo is held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm doors open 7pm

Whist on the first Saturday of the month at 6:30 pm

Afternoon Club on the 4th Tuesday of the month 1:30 to 4:30pm

The Hall can cater for up to a maximum of 200 people – 180 seated and includes bar facilities, free car parking and a kitchen. Ideal for wedding receptions, parties, funeral teas, business meetings, dancing, concerts and pantomimes. The Hall is open all year depending on availability.

Hire Costs:

Main Hall

Morning session 9am - 12.30pm £30:00

Afternoon session 12.30pm - 5.30pm £30:00

Evening session 5.30pm 12am £40:00

Committee room £10:00 per session

Discounts available to regular users.

Committee Members:

Mike Dinsdale Chair

Bob Richards Vice Chair

Jackie Jeffrey Treasurer

Tracey Eccles Secretary

Susan Richards Member

Glo Wright Member

Email: wphmanagement1@gmail.com Tel: 01948 710964

Become a Parish Councillor!

Do you want to help get things done in your neighbourhood? Are you already active in your community? As a councillor, you can make a difference. Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council is looking for a person to represent Welshampton Ward on the Council.

Being a councillor is a rewarding form of public service that puts you in a unique position where you can make decisions about local issues and improve the quality of life for people within Welshampton and Lyneal Parish. It gives you the opportunity to help your local community and be part of a dedicated team influencing and providing key services for your area.

The councillor's role takes in:

- Representing the parish ward
- Decision making
- Policy and strategy review and development
- Community leadership and engagement

Being an effective councillor requires some work. The primary role of a councillor is to represent their ward and the people who live in it. Community Leadership is at the heart of modern local government and councils are taking on new responsibilities for working in partnership with other organisations, including Shropshire Council and the voluntary and community sector, to improve services and the quality of life for citizens.

Councillors are expected to take steps to keep in touch with their communities. It is hoped that they will, at least on an annual basis, attend meetings of local community groups. Councillors are also chosen to represent Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council on outside bodies (both local and county) which include a wide range of trusts, associations and committees.

Police 101 Number

Residents will be aware that properties in the Parish are connected to 2 different telephone exchanges, Welshampton and Lyneal to the Bettisfield exchange and Colemere to Cockshutt.

Those residents connected to the Bettisfield exchange should be aware that when dialling 101 there is a choice of talking to North Wales Police or West Mercia Police. You may wish to note the following that will take straight through to the Ellesmere Community Police
Dial 101
Select option 2
Ask for extension 5243

Ellesmere Area officers are:
PS John Barnes
PC Paul Crump
PCSO Tracy Walker
PCSO Kelly Hogg

Phone Box along The Balmer

Back in October 2008, the Parish Council purchased the old BT Phone Box for the princely sum of £2. The phone itself had been disconnected and removed but residents wished the Box to remain.

In the last couple of years the Box has been repainted but it is an empty shell. Other communities have made use of their old phone boxes in many ways, transforming them into libraries, housing a defibrillator or even an internet café! Can you think of a good use for our Phone Box? Rather than just remaining empty can it be used for the benefit of the community?

If you have a great idea let your local Councillor or Clerk know.

Parish Council Budget

In November every year, the Parish Council starts its discussions around finances for the following year. It has to consider unavoidable increases in costs, special projects for the year and any one-off costs and how these will all be funded.

The Council would welcome your input to the 2018/19 Budget. Take a look around the Parish. Do you have any suggestions in how the local environment could be improved? Are there any projects that would help local community groups or businesses?

Please let your local Councillor or the Clerk know your thoughts. The Council is funded by public funds — your money, so you should have a say in how the Council spends it!

Santa Cruises along the Canal

Our local canal holiday charity, Lyneal Trust, will be running Santa Cruises for local families on the 2 Saturdays before Christmas, 16th and 23rd of December, on its day boat, Shropshire Lady

You will be taken on a trip along the canal, approximately 45 minutes, during which there will be music and refreshments. When you return to the Wharf Cottage both adults and children will enjoy listening to a Christmas themed story and then meet Santa in his Winter Wonderland.

5 trips are planned for each Saturday starting at 10am, 11am, midday, 1.30pm and 2.30pm. Tickets cost £8. Due to limited spaces (12 per trip) please keep adults to a minimum.

To book your places phone 01948 710708 or email bookings@lyneal-trust.org.uk.

Get involved in your community

Welshampton Bonfire Committee 2018 Pantomime: Cinderella

The Welshampton Bonfire Committee's pantomime, Cinderella, is being stage at Welshampton Parish Hall next February.

This special version of Cinderella has been written by Welshampton's Joan Davies, whose husband, Danny is the director.

Anyone interested in taking part, on or off stage, is welcome to come along to the first read through of the script at the Parish Hall on Sunday 19 November at 2pm.

Rehearsals will be on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons.

There is a chance that you will be reading this after Sunday 19th. Don't think it is too late to be involved! Contact Janet Jones 01948 710602



Lyneal and Colemere Open Gardens 2018

Would you open up your gardens next year in support of Colemere Church and the Shropshire Historic Churches Trust?



At least 8 gardens are being sought in both Lyneal and Colemere. If you have any gardening projects which you would like to undertake or any that need finishing, this could be just the incentive you need to do it or perhaps your garden is beautiful already.....

It is hoped to have the Garden Trail on a weekend at the end of May or beginning of June and in order to register with Shropshire Historic Churches Trust we need to do this before the beginning of December. It is important to register as the Trust will provide all necessary publicity and distribute leaflets throughout the county.

If you would like to get involved in this enjoyable event please would you let me know by either emailing me at platt52@btinternet.com or telephone me on 01939 270297. Please let me know before December or else we will not be able to register

Barbara Platt

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

Welshampton Ward

Andrew Haydon (Chair)
Mike Dinsdale (Vice Chair)
Sarah Jefferies
Sheila Stringer
Guy Wellsbury
1 Vacancy

Lyneal Ward

Chris Symes
Lawrence Houghton MBE
Martin Withington

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

Shropshire Councillor

Brian Williams 01939 234198

The information in this newsletter can be made available in large print and audio tape. Please call 01948 710672 for further details.

Useful Contact Details

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

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

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: clerk@welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk
www.welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk



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