

Hello and welcome....

Firstly I would like to wish everyone a belated happy new year from the Parish Council and its Chairman. As I am writing this the sun is shining, the snowdrops and crocus are out and the daffodils are budding. Hopefully Spring is on its way after what has seemed a very long Winter, to me anyway.

On a sadder note, Mrs Peggy Evans passed away early in February. Over the years Mrs Evans contributed greatly to the our community, From cleaning the school, being caretaker of the Parish Hall, initially with her husband Stanley and also serving on the Parish Council. The Parish Council and, I am sure, the community offers their condolences to her friends and family.

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on the Wednesday 11th April this year. We will be talking about the 100 year commemorations of the Great War that we have planned and are eager for your input and ideas for this important day. We would also like you to put any important issues on your mind to Carole Warner for us to cover at this meeting. This is after all **your** meeting and we would like to see and hear more of you at it.

We as a Parish have an Emergency Plan which of course we hope we would never need to implement but "failing to prepare is preparing to fail". We desperately need more volunteers. This is not a full time position it is only, as the name would suggest, in case of emergency and some things we may need for example, a generator, tractor or blankets, you may well have in your home and are things we could easily use in an emergency. If you would be willing to volunteer please contact Carole Warner.

The people of Lyneal should have seen their new noticeboard and all the parishioners will realise that we are slowly changing over the street lights from "low pressure sodium lamps" to LED which are far more economical to run and in my opinion less intrusive than the orange light emitted from the sodium lamps.

I hope you enjoy your news letter and please never hesitate to contact the councillors or our clerk Carole Warner over any parish matters that concern you. I look forward to seeing you at the Parish meeting or any of our monthly meetings.

Andrew Haydon

Chairman of Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

First in the County to achieve Quality Status

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council is the first town or parish council in Shropshire to achieve the

Local Council Award Scheme Quality Award. The Scheme has 3 levels, Foundation, Quality and Quality Gold. All local councils want to serve their local communities and make a real difference to the lives of the people that live there. The Award Scheme offers councils the opportunity to show that they meet the standards set by the sector following assessment

by their peers. On January 4, Cllr Mike Dinsdale and the Clerk, Carole Warner met with an Accreditation Board at Shirehall. The Panel reported "We congratulate the Council on the clarity of its website, where information on the required criteria was easily accessible. Of note was the helpful information introducing the various topics. The Council's newsletters, all posted on line and delivered to every household were of exceptionally high standard. The Panel were impressed with the high professional standards resulting from councillors and clerk working together to achieve outcomes which they describe as a shining light of good practice."

Dianne Dorrell, County Secretary of Shropshire Association of Local Councils, presented the Award Certificate to some members of the Council at the February meeting.

Don't forget, there is one vacancy on the Council. If you want to make a difference in the community, come and join us!



Great War Commemoration

The Parish Council is working with members of the community to commemorate all who have fallen during the 1914-1918 War and in the conflicts since then.

It is proposed to hold the main community event on Saturday 10 November with churches in the Parish holding their own services on the Sunday, 11 November.

The exact details of the commemoration, possibly an exhibition and an evening event, are still in discussion as this newsletter is being written but the Steering Group welcomes help from those who are willing to be involved.

The Group is also seeking contributions in the form of photographs, stories, artefacts that could be included in an exhibition. It is more likely that these will be from later conflicts but any information will be appreciated.

Members of the Steering Group are currently Parish Councillors Mike Dinsdale, Sheila Stringer, Rev Maureen Read, Mr Chris Jobson and the Parish Clerk, Carole Warner. Please contact them direct if you would like to be involved or contribute.

Polite Reminder

Hampton View is a small number of bungalows built for the elderly and managed by the Meres and Mosses Housing Association. The Parish Council has been asked to remind all local residents that the private parking is for Hampton View residents, their carers and emergency services. There is a sign 'use for residents only' but car owners appear to be ignoring this.

We are sure this is just an oversight by those not living in Hampton View.

Provision of Public Sewers in Welshampton

The Parish Council has approached Welsh Water (the Water Authority which supplies most of the village) to discuss the possibility of installing a public sewer in Welshampton. This is because of concerns that future housing developments in the village, some of which have already been approved, may cause pollution problems if more and more septic tanks are installed in an increasingly congested space.

A successful application would result in the construction of a public sewer which would be paid for by the water authority. The water authority however would not cover the construction of drains serving individual properties and their connection to the sewer. Any householder wishing to connect to the public sewer would have to bear the cost of constructing the pipes which would connect their property to the sewer. The cost would be in the region of £900 to £1400 in most cases but for some, it could be more.

Once connected, households would pay an annual sewerage charge to the water authority. This would amount to £324 per household per annum on average.

No one would have to be connected to the sewer if they chose not to but if the septic tank on any property was causing nuisance or pollution, the householder could be made to connect at their own expense. Also, any new properties built during or after construction of the sewer would have to be connected; the installation of a new septic tank would not be an option.

Further details are available on the Parish Council website.

Future Development in the Parish

The Parish Meeting to discuss future development in the Parish was held on 6 December 2017. Thank you to all residents and interested parties who attended. Full details of the meeting and the presentations are available on the Council's website.

The feedback from the meeting and also individual discussions by Parish Councillors with residents were an integral part of the Council's discussions at the Council meeting on 13 December.

The current planning status of the Parish is 'Community Cluster' with open market development being allowed in Welshampton and Lyneal within set development boundaries. Under the current review of Planning Policies by Shropshire Council development boundaries are being removed for 'Clusters' and development will be managed by policies on their own. Councillors considered development controlled purely by policies to be too much of a risk. Also, the level of speculative development which had been approved whilst there was a lack of a 5 year land supply had increased the level of development planned under the current policies.

Taking all this into account, the Council decided that when the Planning Policies currently being reviewed are adopted, the Parish should be designated as 'Countryside'. This means no new open market development can take place. It was considered a period of consolidation can then take place with the current new developments being able to 'bed in'. This change in designation will happen in approximately 2 years time. It is appreciated that not all residents will agree with this change but planning policies are reviewed periodically and the Council will make the decision it believes best for the Parish at each review.

Time for Change!

Welshampton Passion for Plants Afternoon 2018
Bank Holiday Monday May 7
2pm (doors open from 1pm) Welshampton Parish Hall

After 12 successful years of the Plant Fair, the team are offering something fresh this year. In its place we are introducing a **new all-ticket event**:

Welshampton Passion for Plants Afternoon

linked with the Royal Horticultural Society's National Gardening Week, themed "sharing your passion for plants".

We are delighted to announce that John Rippin, recently appointed Head Gardener at the National Trust's flagship Bodnant, will be our inaugural speaker with 'Bodnant's Renaissance'.

John is a dedicated and passionate plantsman who is at the helm of an extensive investment programme at Bodnant, including regeneration, improvement and expansion into new areas. He will explain current developments and his exciting plans for the future, as well as a selection of some of his favourite must-have plants. A stunning garden in a breathtaking landscape, Bodnant also has an exceptional botanical collection. John's talk will ensure that our future visits are greatly enriched. Afterwards, John will be available for expert advice on gardening questions.

There will also be a selection of our beautiful plants and delicious home-made refreshments on sale. We really appreciate all the support we've received throughout the years and do hope that you will continue to support our new initiative. As usual the team will strive to provide a top quality event with great value for money.

All proceeds again divided between Macmillan Cancer Support in Shropshire and the upkeep of Saint Michael and All Angels Church in Welshampton.

Tickets are now on sale at £7.50.

They can be ordered by email at welshampton.tickets@outlook.com or by phone from the Church Warden on 01691 622 653.

Follow us on Facebook for up to date news

Highways Issues

There are currently two main issues: speeding traffic along The Balmer and the flooded area on the lane to Lyneal from B5063.

Traffic monitoring information along The Balmer has been collected and although Shropshire Council was initially not supportive of further action, the Safer Roads Partnership has agreed to assess whether enforcement is required.

The Council has been lobbying Highways about the flooded area but no investigation can take place until the current floods recede.

Parish Emergency Plan

Emergencies happen. We may not be in flood area but other unforeseen events may occur and impact our lives. It may be a traffic accident, a flu pandemic or prolonged severe weather.

The Parish Council is looking for volunteers who are prepared to offer services such as serving refreshments in a place of refuge, shopping for food and medication for those unwell or using a 4x4 to check on isolated homes.

Would you offer help? Check the Plan on the Council's website.

Parish Council Budget

Soon you will receive the Council Tax Demand from Shropshire Council which includes elements destined for other public bodies including the Parish Council. You will notice that the Parish Council has increased its Precept (the official name for the amount of tax paid through the Council Tax).

Raising the Precept is never an easy decision but having discussed plans for the next financial year over several meetings the Council considered that to fulfil its role it had to raise the Precept to £19,500. The average Band D tax payer's Parish Council component will be £53.87 per annum and equates to £1.04 per week. This is an increase of £8.45 per annum or 17p per week. Full details of the Budget are available on the website.

'Our Space' Ellesmere Community Centre and Library

There are regular events running at 'Our Space' which may be of interest to you.

Family Knit & Craft Group (2.15pm to 3.45pm) for 8 to 11 year olds with parent/carer
1st Saturday of every month:

Time to Listen (2pm to 3pm) for adults
1st Monday of every month

Rhyme Time (10.30am to 11am) for under 4 year olds with parent /carer
Wednesday fortnightly

Reading Group for adults
2nd Thursday (2.30pm to 3.30pm) and last Monday of every month (7.30pm to 9pm)

Memory Café (10am to noon) for adults
Last Monday of every month

Welshampton Parish Hall

We're all looking forward to a busy season. We have additions to our regular events and have some special treats on offer. As always the hall remains available for private bookings, see below for contact details. Please note we are already getting really busy so book early to avoid disappointment.

Diary Dates

Modern Sequence Dancing - Every Monday 7.30 pm
Craft and Laugh - First Wednesday monthly 7pm
Whist - First Saturday monthly 6.30pm
Bingo - Third Wednesday monthly 7.30 doors open 7pm
Afternoon Club - Fourth Wednesday monthly 1.30-4.30pm
Music Night - Mary and the Mud Larks & The Stoned Cherries
7.30pm - 16th March - Adults £10 / under 16s £6.
Sing - Tuesday March 20th 7.30-9.30pm £5 on the door
Soundbath & Meditation With Bhanu - Friday - 23rd March,
7.30-9.30pm - £10 27th April, 18th May
Passion for Plants in Welshampton
Bank Holiday Monday 7th May - 2pm to 4.30pm

See Parish Hall contact details below for further information or.

www.hugofox.com/community/welshampton-lyneal-parish-hall-10117/events/

Thursday 22nd March at 7.30 pm

Tickets £12 / £9 concs.

Ticket Reservations: wphmanagement2@gmail.com
Or 01948 710672

Here I Belong by Matt Hartley

Elsie has lived here all her life. She's seen elections, weddings, wars, people coming, people going. We tell her story over six decades – from the coronation in 1953 to her birthday party today. Staged cabaret style, the action happens all around you, the audience. As we move forward through time the décor and actors change as we take you on a funny and moving journey through sixty years of village life. Bring your friends, bring your family or just bring yourself – there will be cake!



Facebook: PentabusTheatre Twitter: @pentabustheatre

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

Parish Council Meetings

All meetings are held in Welshampton Parish Hall and start at 7pm normally on the second Wednesday of the month. The public may attend and speak in the public session.

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



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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
welshamptonphcontact@gmail.com 01948 710964

Keeping YOU Informed is produced by:

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