



Annual Parish Council Report 2017/18

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

The Parish Council has an up-to-date website and issues newsletters to keep residents informed, but it is still recommended good practice for each household to receive a copy of the Chairman's Annual Report. I gave a verbal report at the Annual Parish Meeting in April 2018 and this report expands on that.

Elections May 2017

Every 4 years Town and Parish Council Elections are held and this year started with these formal elections. Three Councillors decided not to stand again: Bob Richards, Mark Standen and Jennifer Wright. On behalf of you all, I would like to thank them for giving their time to the community. The Council has gained 2 extremely competent Councillors, Sheila Stringer and Guy Wellsbury.

Councillor Vacancy

You will have spotted that the Council is still one Councillor short of its full compliment. Being a Councillor does take some commitment but it is flexible too, other than the one meeting per month. Why not come along to a meeting and see what we achieve on your behalf.

Training

As the role of Councillor changes, there is always something to learn. Councillors have attended joint training sessions with other local Parish Councils.

Change of Clerk

In May 2017, Rebecca Turner resigned as Clerk and the Council was very pleased to be able to re-appoint Carole Warner.

Local Council Award Scheme

Possibly the biggest achievement of the year was being awarded the Quality level of the Scheme. This level is awarded to Councils who have its governance, policies and procedures in place and makes a difference in its community.

Business Plan 2018 — 2022

Some Councils lack direction and to ensure your Council remains focused on working for and on your behalf, a 4 year Business Plan was approved. Work towards fulfilling the Business Plan is monitored monthly through an Action Plan. It is hoped projects and issues can be easier tracked through the Action Plan rather than reading through meeting minutes.

Communications

The Council is committed to keeping its parishioners informed through regular newsletters and its website. Although there is a cost, the Council believes in a rural community this is the best way of making sure everyone gets to know what is

happening in the Parish.

Review of Local Planning Policies

Shropshire Council commenced a formal review of its Planning Policies and the Parish Council has responded to all consultation stages to date. Following a Parish Meeting and consulting with parishioners, the Council decided that for the next Planning Policy period (up to 2036) the Parish should be classed as 'Countryside'. This means no new open market development will take place. It is not expected the new Policies will come into effect until 2020 so it is possible for new open market houses to be built up to then.

Planning Applications

The Council prides itself on understanding all applications that come before it for comment. Remember, Shropshire Council makes the decision on applications but asks for an opinion from the Council. The Council is supportive of sustainable proposals but it can not always support applications when all matters are considered. These decisions are not taken lightly

Highways and Street Lights

With the bad and long winter, the Parish's roads and lanes have their fair share of pot holes. There have also been some major issues which are gradually being resolved. I would like to reassure you, the Council will be unrelenting in making sure our lanes and roads are safe. Towards the end of the year the Council commenced its planned upgrade to LED Street Lights. This is required due to the existing type of light being withdrawn due to changes in legislation.

Grounds Maintenance

This year the Council was successful in obtaining a grant from Shropshire Council to help with the cost of the grounds maintenance it carries out around the Parish. Due to a change in policy, it is likely to be a 'one-off'. I would like to end my report with a thank you, on behalf of the Council and you all, to Alan and Helen Russon who maintain our grounds to a exceptionally high standard. It is greatly appreciated!

**Andrew Haydon,
Chairman of the Parish Council**

Contact Information

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Annual Financial Report 2017/18

Payments	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Budget 2018/19
General Admin			
Clerk Salary	£5,077.11	£6,099.83	£6,250.00
Admin Expenses	£639.91	£658.61	£700.00
Audit	£187.00	£179.75	£300.00
Newsletter & Website	£280.42	£1,122.12	£1,450.00
Training	£0.00	£175.00	£400.00
Insurance	£656.73	£685.16	£725.00
Meeting Room Hire	£170.00	£260.00	£200.00
Subscriptions	£362.67	£410.76	£450.00
Parish Maintenance			
Street Lighting	£2,085.05	£1,646.52	£2,450.00
Street Lighting Conversion	£0.00	£4,996.00	
Grounds Maintenance	£1,760.50	£1,590.00	£1,680.00
Stocks Lane Car Park	£0.00	£241.00	
Sports Court	£85.50	£0.00	
Balmer Phone Box	£325.00	£0.00	
Other			
Churchyards	£700.00	£0.00	£350.00
Parish Plan	£1,014.72	£839.00	£2,000.00
Grants	£0.00	£1,000.00	£2,000.00
General Power of Competence	£0.00	£90.00	£100.00
Contingency			£500.00
Total Excl. VAT	£13,157.61	£19,993.75	£19,555.00
VAT	£394.25	£1,536.45	£1,000.00
Total Incl. VAT	£13,551.86	£21,530.20	£20,555.00

Receipts	Actual 2016/17	Actual 2017/18	Budget 2018/19
Precept	£15,675.00	£16,052.00	£19,500.00
Interest	£6.49	£9.33	£10.00
VAT Refund	£260.87	£377.15	£700.00
Neighbourhood Funds	£0.00	£406.84	
Environmental Maintenance Grant	£0.00	£701.52	
Other	£50.00	£0.00	£0.00
Sub Total	£15,992.36	£17,546.84	£20,210.00
Transfer from/to Reserves	£2,440.50	£3,983.36	£345.00
Total	£13,551.86	£21,530.20	£20,555.00

Balances as at 31 March 2018		Reserves Breakdown as at 31 March 2018	
Reconciled Bank Balances		<i>Earmarked Reserves</i>	
Current Account	£2,910.85	Action Plan	£2,000.00
Deposit Account	£9,977.61	P3/Walking Leaflets	£200.00
Net Assets	£12,888.46	Sports Court	£500.00
		Elections	£1,000.00
		Stocks Lane Car Park	£900.00
			£4,600.00
		<i>Contingency Reserves</i>	£8,288.46
			£12,888.46

Represented by Reserves	
Balance as at 1 April 2018	£16,871.82
Less excess payments over receipts	£3,983.36
Balance as at 31 March 2017	£12,888.46

