

# Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 13 October 2021, at Welshampton Parish Hall, starting at 7pm

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### Formal Meeting

#### Present:

Councillors: Lawrence Houghton MBE (Chair), Karen Bland, Andrew Haydon, Kathryn Holland, Sheila Stringer, Chris Symes, Guy Wellsbury and Martin Withington  
Shropshire Councillor Brian Williams  
Clerk: Carole Warner.  
Members of the Public: One

#### 143/21 Public Participation Period

None

#### 144/12 Presentation on Community Speed Watch

The Chair of the meeting, Cllr Houghton MBE, invited the coordinator of Welshampton Community Speed Watch to update the Council on the activities of the group.

The coordinator explained that over the years he had noticed an increase in the volume and speed of traffic through the village. He had volunteered to set up a community speed watch group, but this had been delayed due to the pandemic. Six volunteers had come forward and trained by West Mercia Police in April this year. There were 4 approved sites where the group checked speeds and they aimed for 1 session per week subject to weather and daylight. On average, 30 vehicles were checked per hour of which 10-12 were in excess of 35mph. The collected data is forwarded to the Police who take action depending on the speed and number of times the vehicle has been noted driving in excess of 35mph.

The coordinator thanked the Council for sharing data from the Vehicle Activated Sign and this confirmed the times the group operated were correct.

A councillor asked whether the group had ever been threatened by motorists. The coordinator replied only once, verbally. There had been gestures but nothing physical.

A councillor asked about motorbikes as it was understood that the speed and vehicle registration plate is captured when travelling towards the speed gun. The coordinator agreed motorbikes were more difficult. He confirmed no large lorries had been recorded in excess of 35mph despite local opinion. However, a van from a local company had been recorded in excess of 35mph a number of times.

A councillor asked how the Police had decided on the range of actions when excessive speed recorded. The coordinator did not know.

Cllr Houghton MBE thanked the coordinator for his report and requested he pass on the Council's thanks to all volunteers. He asked whether the Council could support the group in any way. The coordinator replied he was looking to recruit a further 3 or 4 people to the group and any publicity in the newsletter would be of help. He stressed the Police carry out all training of new volunteers.

#### 145/21 Apologies for absence:

Cllr Michael Dinsdale (accepted)

Clerk: Carole Warner,  
Orchard Cottage,  
Rowe Lane,  
Welshampton,  
Ellesmere, SY12 0QB  
Tel. 01948 710672  
email: [clerk@welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk)



#### **146/21 Minutes:**

The minutes of the Meeting held on 9 September 2021 were approved and signed.

#### **147/21 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

- a. Members were reminded that they are required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, whether or not the Interest is entered in the Register of Members' Interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.
- b. To consider any requests for Dispensation**  
None
- c. **Members were reminded that they are required to declare any acceptance of gifts and hospitality.**

#### **148/21 Shropshire Council Member's Report**

Cllr Williams circulated an extract of text from a report regarding Shropshire Council's budget. It confirmed the spending on Adult Social Care and Children Services was rising rapidly and there was a projected deficit of £25 million for the next financial year. Therefore, it was difficult to put additional funding into Highways. He confirmed some local highways projects were planned for spring 2022. Councillors stressed that although some recent highways work had been completed well, one issue was value for money as the contractor did not appear to be working effectively and efficiently. Cllr Williams reported that there was new management at the Council and contractor and relationships had improved. A councillor asked whether the Council had been successful in obtaining additional funds for highways. Cllr Williams was not aware of any additional funds other than through raising the precept. Discussion took place on the history of Local Authorities taking on Adult Social Care and Children Services.

#### **149/21 Development in the Parish**

- a. Decisions Received: noted**
  - i. 21/03498/FUL Tower Farm, Lyneal, SY12 0QG  
Erection of a detached double garage and workshop  
Decision: Grant Permission
  - ii. 21/02828/FUL Mill Race Farm, Northwood, SY12 0NQ  
Construction of a 20m x 40m all weather manege including change of use of land, installation of 4No LED floodlights 6m high and erection of 1.5m high boundary post and rail fence  
Decision: Grant Permission
- b. Applications Received**
  - i. 21/04377/FUL 2 Mill Lane, Lyneal, SY12 0LE  
Erection of an oak framed gazebo  
**It was resolved there were no objections to the application. The Council was however surprised at the description of gazebo due to the size of the structure and that the plans referred to a pavilion.**
  - c. Shropshire Local Plan – submission to Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government for examination  
Noted.
  - d. Shropshire Council's Place Overview Committee – review of planning committee structure.  
**The response to the questions asked of Town and Parish Councils were agreed.**

#### **150/21 Parish Clerk's Report**

- a. Meeting with West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner - Invitation from Wem Rural PC**  
The Clerk advised the background to the meeting. It was agreed to accept the invitation and discuss questions and stance of the Council at the next meeting.

**b. Newsletter**

The Clerk advised the range of articles that could be included. Following a suggestion from a councillor, the location of defibrillators and training videos would be included.

**c. SALC North Shropshire Committee meeting**

The Clerk reminded councillors of the meeting on Monday.

**151/21 Financial Matters:**

**a. Balances for information**

Noted

**b. Outstanding accounts**

The following accounts were approved:

C Warner	£612.46
SLCC	£27.50
WALC	£60.00
Royal British Legion	£40.00

**c. Budget 2022/2023**

The Clerk advised a number of projects which could be included in budget.

**152/21 Action Plan 2021/2022**

Progress on projects was noted and an updated Action Plan would be placed on the website.

**153/21 Councillor Reports**

Cllr Holland reported on the Code of Conduct she had attended. She had found it very beneficial as a new councillor but noted some delegates who were experienced councillors had also gained knowledge.

Cllr Symes reported that Lyneal Trust had hosted Shropshire Council's Leader, Cllr Lezley Picton and 2 cabinet members to Lyneal Wharf to introduce them to the work of the Trust. He had not taken them to Colemere as Shropshire Council officers had confirmed funds to repair the boardwalk had been obtained but they were awaiting English Nature's agreement.

**154/21 Parish Matters**

**a. The Queen's Green Canopy**

Cllr Wellsbury advised Welshampton PCC had discussed planting a tree within St Michael's churchyard. The PCC was keen to involve other groups and organisations. It was agreed to discuss this with the next item.

**b. Queen's Platinum Jubilee June 2022**

Discussion took place and it was noted some community groups had already approached councillors and clerk regarding events to celebrate the Jubilee. It was agreed to contact those already working on events and place an article in the newsletter to gauge interest.

**c. Royal Mail Rural Postbox Collections**

Cllr Withington advised that Royal Mail had recently changed the collection time from most parish postboxes. They were now at 9am with exceptions for those classed as priority for Covid testing. Acknowledging this was a national change, Cllr Withington considered it was not acceptable that rural areas be penalised. Discussion took place and it was agreed that this change should be raised with other rural parishes to ensure they were aware of changes and assess the feeling of rural residents. The upcoming SALC North Committee would be a suitable meeting to raise this.

**155/21 Highways.**

**a. Resident's concerns: staggered junction Rowe Lane/Breaden Heath A495**

Councillors agreed that the staggered junction had great potential for a fatal accident. With the addition of the new caravan site, the risk of an accident had increased. It was agreed to raise this with Shropshire Council traffic engineer.

***b. Maintenance check of street lights***

**It was agreed to instruct a full inspection of the street lights following confirmation from the clerk that the cost had been included in this year's budget.**

**156/21 Date of future meeting and agenda items:** Wednesday 10 November 2021

**157/21 Resolved:** That under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the item of business numbered 17 and 18 as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the inclusion of personal. Commercial and/or legal nature in the business to be transacted.

**158/21 Enforcement issues**

The clerk reported that following recruitment of additional officers to the Enforcement Team she had received confirmation that progress of cases would be quicker.

**159/21 Lease negotiations**

It was noted that a statutory declaration needed to be signed.

The Chair of the meeting, Cllr Houghton MBE, declared the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed.....

Date.....