

Hello and welcome....

to the summer edition of the Parish Council's newsletter. Since the last newsletter we have held the annual meeting of the Parish Council and I would thank my fellow councillors for placing their trust in me to hold the role of chairperson for another year. Lawrence Houghton MBE was elected vice chairperson for another year too. There are other roles within the Council and I would like to thank councillors for taking on additional responsibilities.

A new addition to the Parish Council's website is a section dedicated to climate, sustainability and biodiversity. It is proposed to add information on the website on a regular basis, indeed monthly if appropriate so please do check in on the website from time to time. More information is inside.

We have also included information of the Wem Ukraine Support Hub. Some of our local families have offered accommodation to Ukraine families in the last few months.

I cannot close without paying tribute to the most significant event since our last newsletter — Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. I would like to express my thanks to the working group of Parish Councillors and members of the community who worked so hard to make the Parish celebrations such an amazing success. Also thank you to all who supported the events and to all who held their own street parties and other tributes like the church bell ringing. The whole weekend was a testament to the community spirit within our parish and to us all.

Michael Dinsdale

Chairperson

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

Community Service Award 2022

This year's recipient of the Parish Council's Community Service Award is Mr Frank Davies. Frank was presented the Award by the Parish Council Chairperson, Mr Mike Dinsdale, following the service at St John the Evangelist Church at Colemere on Sunday 3 July.



Comments about Frank's contribution to the community included:

Frank was a governor of Lyneal School for many years until its closure in 1989. He ensured the proceeds of the sale was retained in a Trust for the benefit of local young people. Frank then became a governor of Welshampton school and was also part of the team who instigated the pre-school in Welshampton.

Frank has always been involved with Lyneal with Colemere Church and was a loyal Church warden. He helped with the church grounds maintenance, assisted at church events and always on hand to do urgent repairs.

Frank was a dependable and knowledgeable Parish Councillors for many years.

Frank's contribution to village life included helping to organise Christmas concerts, manning barbeques and providing, setting up, taking down and storing tables and chairs for numerous events.

As a builder Frank was responsible for many local projects: the new Parish Hall and the kitchen and toilet extensions for the Chapel and Church.

We are sure you will agree with the Parish Council that Frank Davies is the deserving recipient of this year's Award.

Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity

In the Spring newsletter we explained that as a Council we have a responsibility to explore the topics of climate, sustainability and biodiversity and assist our parishioners with understanding how these areas can be addressed in a rural community. Some of the 'standard' approaches like increasing the use of public transport are not feasible in a community where public transport is restricted to 2 buses a day.

The Council agrees with the following statement from the Sustainable Development Commission:

'Sustainability is to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life of future generations. This will be pursued in an integrated way through a sustainable, innovative and productive economy that delivers high levels of employment; and a just society that promotes social inclusion, sustainable communities and personal wellbeing. This will be done in ways that protect and enhance the physical and natural environment, and use resources and energy as efficiently as possible.'

To start the Council's work in this area there will be a special event on the evening of Monday 19 September 2022 in the Parish Hall. It is planned that the evening will start with short presentations followed by an opportunity to share ideas on how we move forward in what is acknowledged by most, as a very challenging time not only in respect of climate but also economically. Whilst looking to help those who wish to move towards carbon neutrality the Council also knows that following the pandemic and war continuing in Europe with all that those issues entail it must also have in mind affordability and the cost of living crisis. One issue cannot be considered without noting all issues.

There is a Working Group which presently consists of three Parish Councillors but after September it is hoped that there might be at least three other members of the community willing to give a small amount of their time to assist with these important matters. You may have specialist knowledge or you may simply have a very real interest or passion. Please let us know should you wish to assist, either by e mailing our Clerk, Carole Warner or by simply advising us on the evening in September. The remit of the Group may expand but initially the purpose is to assist, to learn and to share good practice.

So, please keep abreast of the website, read our Newsletters when they land on your doorstep and do come to the September meeting. We will endeavour to make it a very interesting and worthwhile evening for all. We will notify you of the precise time and the identity of our speakers nearer to the date.

Thank you from your Parish Council.

Wem Ukraine Support Hub

Liz Dakin, Wem Ukraine Support Hub Coordinator explains what is happening in Wem.

Whilst we have opened the Hub in recent months in the Wem Baptist Church to respond to the crisis in the Ukraine, I first want to make it clear that all guests and refugees are welcome to get support with us wherever they come from or religion!

Currently, we have met 11 different Ukrainian families from this area mainly ladies, most with their children. Most have come in under the 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme, which means they are stopping with Host families, although two of our families came earlier in the 'Uniting Families' scheme. More arrive each week, with the number in Shropshire being expected to double in the next few months.

Our Hub currently opens at the church on Tuesday 10-12.30 and Wednesday evenings from 7-8.30pm although this is constantly under review. We may move to doing once-monthly special social events in the evenings perhaps with Ukrainian cooking, films and games for the youngsters. We have links to the 'Shropshire Supports Refugees Charity' in Shrewsbury, who have their own hub in Riverside

with a large clothes, toiletries and toys store. They have kindly provided two lap tops for us, as well as free Sim cards. We use the lap tops to help our guests apply for their visas, bank accounts, universal credit and so on! This has been really appreciated. Many of the guests are out in the countryside with limited transport so we have been running a volunteer driver scheme to help them get to places like the Doctors, the Job Centre, school and even some nice trips out!

We have also been running some English lessons to help folk get started in the area and hopefully look for work, I have to say that many of them speak excellent English especially the children!

Most of the people we have met are happy to have a place to meet up and chat, have a piece of cake or toast and a coffee or tea.

Any clothes or toy donations should be given to the Shrewsbury Hub as we have no storage where we are. Our only needs, currently, are for resources to teach English!

Celebrating the Jubilee



The Welshampton and Lyneal Community celebrated Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in style and the general consensus was that everybody enjoyed the events and the coming together.

The Friday night Frog Race Derby was a real multigenerational affair from children of 6 years to people in their 80's ...it was hard to tell who had the most fun. The competition to win the races was fierce and hilarious in equal measure. There was brisk bidding to enter the races and be a jockey. In the final race the bidding was to become an 'owner', this was very fiercely fought, the final bids led to a very healthy payout on the tote!

The Parish Hall bar was open - and the Jubilee cocktail was very popular (and colourful!). Our fish and chip suppers were delivered by The Shropshire Fish Bar from Ellesmere, they were delicious and no washing up!!

The general consensus from those who attended was ... "when's the next one?" Maybe watch this space?



On Jubilee Saturday there was a festive and tempting Platinum Pudding Competition held in Colemere Church. The church looked lovely, decorated with bunting together with red, white and blue floral displays. The competition was well supported and there were many entries from children as well as adults. The judges had an extremely difficult time in deciding the winners, all of the entries were beautifully decorated in the Jubilee theme and were definitely 'fit for a queen'. The winners were Lola Stone aged 10 years and Di Hill, they both received a small prize. Pictures of the winning entries below.



And so we come to the Big Jubilee Lunch on Sunday which was due to be held in the school field ... the marquee was up, the bunting was ready, the entertainment was rehearsed, and gazebos were at the ready ... and then it rained, and rained again!! It was just as well we had a plan B and the event was moved to the Parish Hall... and in the best British tradition a good time was had by all. There were elaborate picnics and corks popping ... and wonderful entertainment from our amazing Bonfire Committee. They gave us some national and local history from each decade of HM's reign and a song too. The audience was enthusiastic in joining in ... most people knew at least some of the words and those that didn't sang anyway. The finale was a rousing rendition of Sweet Caroline and we were at least

as good as Sir Rod Stewart and the London audience at the Jubilee concert the night before.

It was a lovely weekend and wonderful to see so much community spirit and enormous capacity to enjoy ourselves.

Don't forget there is a Jubilee photo competition ... please send your best photo from any of the above events to clerk@welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk, the winning entry will professionally printed and framed.



The Parish Council gave more than 140 Jubilee mugs to the children of the Parish, also many people were able to buy the lovely bone china mugs (it seems mostly for grandchildren !!) at £6 each. There are two mugs left unsold, please email the clerk to reserve them. This will be on a first come first served basis.



Our Jubilee Tree!

The Parish Council took up the offer from Shropshire Council to plant a tree as part of the Queen's Canopy project and a 2 metre Whitebeam (*Sorbus aria* 'Majestica') was chosen. 'Majestica' is a medium-sized deciduous tree with broad elliptic leaves, glossy dark green above, whitish beneath and turning yellow in autumn. Clusters of creamy-white flowers in late spring are followed by red berries.

It was agreed the ideal place for the tree was on the island in Lyneal. There is a plaque to remind everyone of the occasion of the planting. The Parish Council's maintenance team, Alan and Helen Russon, had pleasure planting the tree in the lead up to the celebrations



Jubilee Cocktails



Those who attended the Frog Race Derby will have also enjoyed the cocktails!

They were:

Alice Sunrise: lemonade, strawberry liqueur and fresh orange juice decorated with glace cherries.

Jazz Fizz Special: lemonade, orange juice, martini and dubonnet decorated with fresh cherries.

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

Welshampton Ward

Mike Dinsdale (Chair)
Karen Bland
Andrew Haydon
Kathryn Holland
Sheila Stringer
Guy Wellsbury

Lyneal Ward

Lawrence Houghton MBE (Vice Chair)
Chris Symes
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 normally held on the second Wednesday of the month and start at 7pm. 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

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