



Saturday 30th September

Big Green Day

Welshampton & Lyneal Parish Council

This special free event, organised by the Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity Working Group, will give visitors a lively and unique insight into some of the incredible businesses and organisations taking care of this beautiful part of Shropshire supporting sustainability and biodiversity.

Big Green Raffle
In support of the Ellesmere Food
And Warm Clothes Sharing
Project

Welshampton Parish Hall

9am - 5pm

Talks throughout the day!

The Big Green Day will include over 20 exhibitors and stalls covering:

- ◇ Garden wildlife & Composting
- ◇ Meadow creation
- ◇ Renewable energy
- ◇ Fabulous local produce
- ◇ Sustainable Household Products
- ◇ Come and talk to the experts and rangers who care for Colemere
- ◇ Rural Arts Hub and hands on craft activities
- ◇ Learn more about Whixall Moss

**Ellesmere
Repair Cafe**

**Treat yourself to a
Brooklands Farm
Organic Gelato!**

**Plant and Seed
Swap**

Come and spend a couple of hours with us, we aim to inform and inspire you!

For further information please contact clerk@welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk or 01948 710672

Hello and welcome....

to the latest edition of the Parish Council's newsletter.

Thank you to all those who supported the recent Swish! which took place on Saturday 8 July. A big thanks to those who donated clothes and accessories and to all those who returned to Welshampton Parish Hall in the afternoon to exchange tokens for lovely new items of clothing and accessories. We know everyone enjoyed homemade cakes and tea whilst shopping!

We hope to repeat the exercise next summer but in the meantime want to know from you whether we should organise a similar event between now and December but on this occasion the subject matter would be children's toys. Again, with the emphasis on sustainability we would like to hear from you as to whether we should organise such an event before Christmas. Please let Carole Warner, our Clerk, (clerk@welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk) know if you think this would be a good idea. It might just save us all a lot of money on Christmas gifts for friends and family and be very good for the planet too. Please do get in touch and let us know what you think.

The Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity Working Group are excited to announce the 'Big Green Day' on Saturday 30th September. It will be at Welshampton Parish Hall from 9am-5pm. There will be lots of exhibitors from local produce to renewable energy stands; sustainable household products, Colemere Rangers and wildflower and meadow experts including rolling talks throughout the day. There will also be a plant and seed swap. There will be some great hands-on activities for all ages, with the Rural Arts Hub and Shropshire Wildlife Trust. Please do come along and enjoy a few hours with us!

The next Parish Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 13th September. If you would like to attend we start at 7pm in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.

Karen Bland
Chairperson
Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

The Lyneal Trust — can you help one of our local charities?

The Lyneal Trust exists to offer canal boat and cottage holidays and canal day trips for people with disabilities, illness or injury, or any other vulnerability and their family, friends and carers who may accompany them. You may have walked or driven by the Trust's site at Lyneal Wharf and seen the boats and cottages.

The Trust held an 'Open Day' in April and 34 people, both local and further afield, visited the Wharf. Some came forward to volunteer and others took the opportunity to look around the boats and cottages. So far this year, the Trust's band of volunteers has been increased by over 20 people!

The Trust has seen a change in trustees recently with Sarah Lamb joining and Steve Bristow resigning due to a change in family circumstances. Sarah's interest is working with people and a variety of organisations to improve and establish new accessible places. Sarah is already contributing to the Trust with ideas on how to improve our facilities.

Those of you who use social media, Facebook in particular, and follow the Trust will know what a super job Steve has done in creating Lyneal Trust's online presence. So there is now an opportunity for a volunteer to manage the Trust's social media

programme. Can you do it? Or do you have a family member or friend who enjoys the Facebook experience who would like to get involved?

In addition, the Trust has a vacancy for a grant fund-raiser. This is an administrative role which can be done at home. Whilst Lyneal Trust is self-funding, it relies on grants and donations when major wharf facilities improvements or boat replacement are required.

If you are interested in volunteering for these opportunities or would like more information about them, please contact Chris via cnsymes@lyneal-trust.org.uk or 07969 815400, or Carole via secretary@lyneal-trust.org.uk.

Take a look at the Trust's website:

www.lyneal-trust.org.uk



Parish Council Retains 'Quality Gold'

As Karen Bland mentioned in her introduction to the previous 'Keeping YOU Informed', the Parish Council has retained its 'Quality Gold' under the national Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS). The Council is the first council in Shropshire to not only achieve but retain this standard. But what is the Award Scheme?

LCAS celebrates the successes of the very best local councils, and provides a framework to support all local councils, town and parish, to meet their full potential. All local councils want to serve their local communities and make a real difference to the lives of the people that live there. LCAS offers councils the opportunity to show that they meet the standards set by the sector, assessed by their peers, and to put in place the conditions for continued improvement. Councils can apply for an award at one of three levels.

- The Foundation Award demonstrates that a council meets requirements for operating lawfully and according to standard practice.
- The Quality Award demonstrates that a council achieves good practice in governance, community engagement and council improvement.
- The Quality Gold Award demonstrates that a council is at the forefront of best practice and achieves excellence in governance, community leadership and council development.

In March 2023, the Parish Council submitted its application to be re-accredited as 'Quality Gold'. In its report the Accreditation Panel stated: "The Accreditation Panel would like to thank Councillors Stringer, Bland and Holland and Carole Warner, your Clerk for the excellent presentation and response to questions raised. The Panel commend the Council once again on the high, professional standard that it has maintained which they considered was even of a higher standard than that of four years ago. It is evident from the Council's extensive list of achievements, particularly on their engagement with the community, as demonstrated in the presentation, that it is passionate about the work it does. Of note was the professionalism, enthusiasm and commitment to team working. The commitment to training, ongoing professional development and programme of self-review of the Council's performance was commendable, and it was also good to hear of the successful induction process for new councillors that the Clerk had put in place.

The Panel was particularly impressed with the way that the Council has built on its achievements from the previous Quality Gold Award."

The photo opposite was taken at the formal presentation in June. From the right: Cllr Kathryn Holland, Clerk Carole Warner, Cllr Karen Bland, Vice President SALC, Rosemary Abbiss, Cllr Sheila Stringer.



Community Grants advance warning!

Every year the Parish Council puts aside an amount of funds to help local community groups. There are agreed criteria and an application form which can be obtained from the Clerk.

Completed applications must be submitted by Friday 1 December and will be considered at the December Parish Council meeting. All applications will be considered on their individual merits.

Please think how the Council can help your community group!

Missing Post Box at The Sun

Early August, the post box located at the car park entrance of The Sun disappeared! The metal post had perished and was no longer able to support the Post Box.

The Parish Council has been advised that the latest thinking of Royal Mail is to re-locate it to the layby by the Parish Hall. This would allow safer parking on the public highway. The new location is still to be confirmed.

The Parish Council understands it may take 25 weeks before the post box is back in action.

Do we need street lights on between midnight and 5pm?

Residents have recently approached the Parish Council about the timing of its street lights. All street lights in Welshampton and Lyneal are owned and maintained by the Parish Council.

It may be possible, if the light is located in an area which does not impact road safety, to switch them off between midnight and 5am.

If you live near a light which you would be happy to be switched off between these times, please contact the Council's Clerk.

£11m available to help lift Shropshire homes out of fuel poverty

Energy experts at Shropshire Council have secured over £11 million in funding for its Sustainable Warmth Programme to assist local people to improve their homes and reduce harm caused by fuel poverty. The total funding award of £11,073,500 from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero forms part of the Government's Phase 2 of its 'Home Upgrade Grant' scheme.

Shropshire Council will use the funding to help retrofit the homes of residents living off-gas. Fully funded works will include insulation, heat pumps, first-time double glazing, and solar panels.

As well as keeping homes cosy and warm, energy efficiency improvements can reduce heating costs and carbon emissions. They can also boost comfort levels at home, and protect against the health risks associated with damp and cold homes.

Shropshire Council is now inviting expressions of interest from residents and landlords to the

Sustainable Warmth Programme. Qualifying residents will receive a free assessment to identify the types of measures that will be most effective for their home. All works will be delivered by accredited and Shropshire Council approved contractors.

This new funding will allow Shropshire Council to support more than 500 households over the next two years, and it is currently negotiating additional funding to increase the number of households who will benefit from the scheme.

There are a number of ways residents can qualify: for more information and to check their eligibility, they can visit Shropshire Council's website www.shropshire.gov.uk/sws where they can also apply.

If residents require support with their application, they can contact our free and impartial energy advice service, Keep Shropshire Warm, on 0800 112 3743.

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

Welshampton Ward

Karen Bland (Chair)
Mike Dinsdale
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

Keeping YOU Informed is produced by:

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LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY GOLD