

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

Action Plan: 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council aims to:

- To provide effective, efficient and accountable local government for the parish, enabling residents to be involved in the life of the community and its future development.
- To be a strong voice for residents and local businesses, working to improve the overall parish area both built and natural, while preserving the uniqueness of heritage areas.

The Council's objectives are:

- To understand and communicate the views, needs and aspirations of residents and businesses to statutory and non-governmental bodies as required.
- Increase public involvement in the community through ensuring the parish council and its activities are open, transparent and accountable to residents.
- Support local business and economic activity in the parish.
- Work with other Councils to provide safe, healthy and timely opportunities for recreation, leisure and education.
- To support the work of parish voluntary organizations through grants and practical support
- Respond to planning applications and other statutory consultations on time, ensuring that recommendations made to Shropshire Council adhere to the community plan, any statutory regulations, and the interests of the community.
- Promote, within our community, activities which support the principles of environmental sustainability and an ethical society, working with others to keep public places clean and safe.
- Ensure that Councillors and Staff have access to high quality training and development opportunities and that they meet all required standards, for example working towards achieving Quality Council status.

A Business Plan for 2021 – 2025 was adopted in July 2021 which included the principles of the Council's aims and objectives.

The Council monitors progress of the Business Plan through an Annual Action Plan. It is a 'live' document which the Parish Council updates on a regular basis, enabling the Council to track and monitor progress against the objective and timescale. The Action Plan is publicly available, so residents can also monitor progress.

To ensure the Action Plan truly represents the Parish's best interests, the Parish Council will invite the local community to participate in its development.

The Action Plan will continue to be the main way of telling you what we are doing to meet the needs of the community.

It is a two-way conversation. Please tell us what you think about it. We welcome your comments. If you require any further information that would help you understand what we are trying to achieve, please let us know.

We can also provide additional information on the issues raised in the Plan.

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

Action Plan 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

Monitoring Report date: November 2023

| Objective | Action | Timescale | Budget | Update (if appropriate) | Completed |
|---|---|--------------------|-----------------------|--|-----------|
| Theme 1 - Parish Council Governance | | | | | |
| To improve communication between the Parish Council and residents and businesses | Keep website up to date. | On-going | | | |
| | Ensure 4 editions of Keeping YOU Informed are published. Include sections on reporting issues to Shropshire Council and the Police. Include Annual Report | On-going | Allocation of £1,5000 | Winter 2023 Edition published. Summer 2023 Edition published. | |
| | Review use of Social Media. | March | | Not a method of preferred communication for residents in this Parish. | |
| | Provide local media (press etc) information of local interest. | On-going | | Successful for promoting The Big Green Day | |
| | Ensure draft Minutes and Action Plan are published on website within 1 week of meeting | On-going | | | |
| To improve effectiveness of Parish Council | Review training needs of both Councillors and Clerk | October to January | To be assessed | | |
| | Monitor criteria of LCAS. | On-going | | | |
| | Annual performance review of Clerk | March | | | Yes |
| To ensure Council delivers value for money | Regular review of expenditure against Budget | On-going | | | |
| To increase influence / coordination in matters that impact on Parish | Awareness of local issues and invite representatives of outside agencies to Council meetings and/or round table discussions. | On-going | | Meetings arranged with Shropshire Council and other companies/agencies when appropriate eg Spunhill traffic, Tudor Griffiths and Outdoor Partnerships (Colemere) | |

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| | Attend relevant conferences and meetings | On-going | | See above. Conferences: Nature Recovery, Climate Actions | |
| To increase impact of Community Grant Scheme | Fund Community Grant Scheme | October to January | To be assessed | Funding appreciated by local groups | |
| | Active promotion of the Community Grant Scheme. | Autumn Newsletter | | Included In Autumn newsletter | |
| | Review impact of Grants provided and review Policy | October to January | | Positive responses from recipients. | |
| Theme 2 - Leisure and Community | | | | | |
| To support and work with Welshampton Parish Hall Management Committee regarding the maintenance and development of facilities for the benefit of parishioners. | Liaise with Welshampton Parish Hall Management Committee to apply for grants to upgrade building. | On-going | | | |
| | Liaise with the Committee to identify where Council assistance could be used. | On-going | | | |
| | Review surface and boundary issues of car park. | March | | Replacement boundary fencing completed with CIL NF summer 2023 | |
| To support existing community groups and work with existing communities and new housing developments to become part of the same 'community'. | Work with Shropshire Council, community groups and other bodies to promote activities. | On-going | | Newsletter used as a regular vehicle. | |
| | Recognise the work carried out by groups and individuals on a voluntary basis through the Community Service Award | March | Allocation of £100 | Award made in 2023 | |
| To consult with the community to identify local needs and views which can be addressed by constructive council action. | Consult and engage with the community paying particular attention to the diversity of the community. | March | To be assessed | Consider Parish Councillors surgery February 2024. | |
| To ensure Broadband and Mobile Phone infrastructure is of a level to enable the community to fully access these services. | Lobby Shropshire Council and other bodies to ensure all avenues to improve services are investigated and actioned. | On-going | | | |
| | Work with Connecting Shropshire, and Airband to monitor fibre project. | September 2023 | | 'Ellesmere' project completed Spring 2023. Further areas to be considered under government schemes. 6/23 Working with Airband re properties along A495. | |
| Theme 3 - Parish Appearance, Environment, Public Services and Safety | | | | | |

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| To keep roads and lanes clean for the enjoyment of parishioners and visitors. | Organise with community groups periodic litter picks. | On-going | | Consider during Spring 2024 when Parish Verge project commences. | |
| To reduce crime and to help parishioners and businesses feel better protected against crime. | Continue to work with West Mercia Police to share information on local crime and safety issues, including promotion of relevant websites. This includes inviting the Local Neighbourhood Team to monthly Council meetings when appropriate and forwarding any enquiries and concerns to them. | On-going | | Contact re-established by Clerk September/October 2023 | |
| To preserve settlements' rural identity. | Provide signage that depicts the heritage, history and culture of the villages they represent. | March | | Some signage on traffic calming white gates. | |
| To improve local infrastructure. | Improvements to Stocks Lane Car Park | March | | Dependant on CIL NF funding. | |
| To ensure in a diverse and rural parish, local solutions to emergencies are in place to support county and national plans. | Publicise and periodically review local community emergency plan. | March | | To be reviewed as part of SALC / Communities Prepared project. Training available November 2023. | |
| To lead the community on issues related to the environment and climate change | Work with local groups | On-going | | Swishing Event held July 2023. Repeat event to be considered nearer Christmas with toys. Big Green Day held September 2023 | |
| | Look to re-wild appropriate verges | On-going | | Permission given by Highways. | |
| To ensure Colemere Countryside Park is accessible to all and well maintained | Work with Shropshire Council to enhance/maintain facilities. | On-going | | Relationships re-established. Regular meetings being held. | |
| | Report to Shropshire Council issues of maintenance and monitor repairs. | On-going | | 7/6 Fencing agreed to be repaired/replaced. Contractor instructed and fence replaced/repared | |
| Theme 4 - Highways, Transport and Access | | | | | |
| To address highways concerns of residents and businesses and seek solutions. | Work with Shropshire Council to understand planned highways maintenance works. | On-going | | Liaison with Traffic Engineering Manager taking place. | |
| | Work with Shropshire Council to identify critical areas for winter gritting. | On-going | | On-going. | |

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| | Forward any complaints about highways maintenance to Shropshire Council | On-going | | Liaison with Highways Maintenance Manager taking place. | |
| | Identify redundant and poorly maintained road markings and signage and report to Shropshire Council | March | | | |
| | Work with Shropshire Council to extend 30mph limits on lanes in Welshampton | March | | 1/22 Request made to SC Traffic Engineers. Follow up taking place November 2023 | |
| | Identify road safety issues and gather evidence for West Mercia Police PCC grant application | March | | | |
| | Safety issues at Spunhill junction to be reviewed following accident | On-going | | 7/23 Meeting with SC and interested parties held on 31 July 2023. Update received October 2023. | |
| To seek solutions to speeding traffic | Report specific incidents to the Police and Shropshire Council. | On-going | | | |
| | Review areas of concern in the parish and work with Shropshire Council and Police to seek solutions | On-going | | 2/22 SC agreed to install signs for Breadon Heath | |
| To improve safety for pedestrians within the centre of Welshampton | Provide pedestrian crossing along the A495. | March | | 11/22 Agreement to location given. SC to schedule work. | |
| To maintain access to the countryside | Work with Shropshire Council to ensure full access of Rights of Way is maintained. | On-going | | 9/23 The Terrace/Lyneal Lane issues reported. | |
| Theme 5 - Economy and Tourism | | | | | |
| To improve coordination both between Parish businesses and between businesses and Parish Council. | To work with all public access building owners, businesses and committees to seek the provision of additional public services. | March | | February 23 – included in newsletter to gauge interest. No replies received. | |
| To improve information and promotion of local facilities, services, activities and landmarks to encourage local tourism. | Review Welshampton Walks | March | | 11/8/21 Cllrs to walk and provide feedback to Clerk. To be progressed autumn 2023/winter 2024 | |

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| Theme 6 - Housing and Health | | | | | |
| To continue to comment on all key strategic planning documents and consultations that affect the Parish ensuring the Parish Council's knowledge and understanding of the local context is taken into account in decisions. | Work with Shropshire Council and other partners to ensure documents and consultations are fully understood. | On-going | | | |
| | Ensure residents are consulted to ensure parishioners views are known. | On-going | | | |
| To encourage local residents to participate in any strategic planning consultations which impact the Parish. | Publicise consultation through the Council's communication methods. | On-going | | | |
| To review the way in which the Parish Council considers and makes responses on planning applications. | Review training needs of Councillors. | On-going | | | |
| | Ensure responses are robust and clear. | On-going | | | |
| To retain quality health and social care services | Work in partnership with the relevant statutory and voluntary bodies, groups and agencies to ensure health and social care services meet residents' needs and expectations. | On-going | | Ellesmere Patients Group approached October 2023. Review of dentistry provision required. | |