

Annual Parish Council Report May 2025 to April 2026

Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

It is my pleasure to present this year's Annual Report, reflecting a period of steady progress, community collaboration, and new endeavours across the parish. Over the past twelve months, the Council has continued to focus on the priorities residents have consistently raised: supporting local initiatives, ensuring responsible use of public funds, and bringing together different parts of our community that defines our parish.

1. Council Activities and Decisions

This year the Council met regularly to consider planning applications, review parish maintenance needs, and respond to issues raised by residents. Key areas of work included:

- **Planning & Development** — We reviewed a range of planning applications, ensuring that development remains appropriate, sustainable, and in keeping with the character of the parish.
- **Highways & Footpaths** — The Council continued to report potholes, drainage issues, and overgrown rights of way. Several repairs were completed following our submissions, and we maintain our good relationships with the Highways Authority.
- **Environmental Stewardship** — Litter-picking sessions, verge maintenance and rewilding, and tree-care initiatives were supported throughout the year. We also continued to monitor local flooding concerns and liaise with relevant agencies.
- **Community Engagement** — through our frequent newsletters to all residents, direct contact, surgeries and one off events, residents raised a number of issues- from speeding concerns to planning concerns. The Council responded promptly and worked with partners where needed.

2. Financial Overview

The Council has managed its finances prudently, ensuring value for money while maintaining essential services. Key points include:

- The **precept** was set at a level that allows the Council to meet its statutory responsibilities without placing unnecessary burden on residents.
- Expenditure focused on grounds maintenance, insurance, and parish assets. Additional grants awarded were spent on specific schemes to improve biodiversity in the parish – this year focussing on

Lyneal and Colemere.

The Council remains in a stable financial position, with reserves held at an appropriate level for contingencies and future projects.

A full financial statement is available for inspection and will be presented at the AGM.

3. Parish Improvements and Projects

Several improvements were completed or progressed this year:

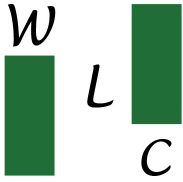
- **Public Spaces** — Working with Shropshire Council and the Mere Rangers, new information boards are being designed for the Colemere SSSI site.
- **Community Events** — The Council supported the Climate, Biodiversity and Sustainability Group with two special events in the last year; the first being another SWISH event (sustainable clothes swap) and the second was an event to promote engagement and advise our local landowning and farming community on the LNRS (Local Nature Recovery Strategy). We also supported the 175th Anniversary of Welshampton Primary School - events that brought residents together and strengthened community spirit.
- **Road Safety** — Speed monitoring and discussions with the police and highways teams continued, with further measures under review. Continued requests to all parties to investigate the possibility of adopting the 'Safer Speeds Shropshire' scheme that was implemented a few years ago in Hanwood and Pontesbury.

4. Working With the Community

The Council is grateful for the contributions of volunteers, local organisations, and residents who give their time to improve parish life. Whether through litter-picking, supporting events, or raising issues that need attention, your involvement makes a real difference.

We also thank our Clerk for their professionalism and dedication throughout the year.





5. Looking Ahead

In the coming year, the Council will continue to focus on:

- Maintaining and improving parish assets
 - Monitoring planning and development
 - Strengthening communication with residents through our new communications plan
 - Exploring funding opportunities for local projects
- Continuing to address highways, flooding, and any environmental concerns

We welcome ideas, feedback, and participation from all residents as we plan the next year's priorities.

Closing Remarks

Thank you to my fellow councillors for their commitment and teamwork, and to the community for their ongoing support and engagement. The Parish Council remains dedicated to representing your interests and ensuring our parish continues to be a safe, welcoming, and thriving place to live.

**Councillor Karen Bland,
Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council**

Contact Information

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2025/2026 Information

Full Financial information can be found at:
<https://www.welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk/financial-information/>

Information about the Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity Working Group can be found at:
<https://www.welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk/climate-sustainability-and-biodiversity/>

Copies of Newsletters can be found at:
<https://www.welshamptonandlyneal-pc.gov.uk/parish-newsletters-keeping-you-informed/>



Find out what's really happening in your area and keep in touch with West Mercia Police through the free messaging service.

The Neighbourhood Matters messaging system enables residents, businesses and community groups to keep in touch with local policing teams. You can receive updates on crimes, latest information on on-going incidents and learn more about what we're doing in your community.

Once signed up as a registered recipient you will receive messages of information, crime alerts or witness appeals local to the area in which you live or work by email, text or telephone. You can choose exactly the type of alert you wish to receive so you won't be bombarded with every alert.

Sign up at: www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk.

Please note that this service is not for reporting crimes or incidents:

To make a report please contact West Mercia Police on 101 or dial 999 in an emergency.



Parish Council Meeting Dates

All meetings are held in Welshampton Parish Hall and start at 6.30pm, unless otherwise stated.

Members of the public are invited to address the Council during the first 15 minutes of the meeting.

