



# Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council

## Jan Snell Award 2023

**Name of Council:** Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council  
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Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council nominates itself for the Jan Snell Award 2023. For many years, the Parish Council has worked tirelessly to achieve significant improvements for its local community. Its overarching aim has been to be a Council of quality, delivering services and supporting its residents in all possible ways.

The Parish Council would highlight 2 areas which are recent examples of the Council being recognised for and fulfilling its aim.

- ❖ retention of Quality Gold Level Award June 2023; and
- ❖ continuing public engagement with the community through its Working Group on Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity consisting of 4 Parish Councillors and various hardworking residents at 2 public events, namely a 'Swish!' on 8 July and 'The Big Green Day' on 30 September.

In more detail, the Parish Council achieved Quality Level Award in January 2018. Less than 18 months later in March 2019 the Council achieved Quality Gold Level Award. The Parish Council was re-accredited with the award in June 2023. In its report the Accreditation Panel stated: 'The Panel commend the Council once again on the high, professional standard that they have maintained which they considered was of a higher standard than that of four years ago. It is evident from the Council's list of achievements, particularly on their engagement with the community, as demonstrated in the presentation that they are passionate about the work they do. Of note was their professionalism, enthusiasm and commitment to team working. Their commitment to training, ongoing professional development and programme of self-review of their 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. It was clear to the Panel that the Clerk continued to be highly motivated and worked to a high professional standard which is no doubt a lead that Councillors likewise follow.'

The 'Swish!' might more easily be described as a fancy clothes swap. The Parish Council partnered with Severn Hospice and all clothes that remained 'unswapped' at the end of a busy Saturday in July benefitted the Ellesmere branch of the Hospice. The event brought our community together, predominantly women, some with children with them but also a few men attended. Everyone was made welcome and homemade cakes were enjoyed by all. The event proved successful and may be repeated in future years.

The 'Big Green Day' was in essence a repeat of an event held in the Parish in 2010 but inevitably updated for 2023. Some 20 exhibitors arrived at 8am, prepared their stalls and engaged the community between 9 and 5pm. They represented growers growing sustainably, renewable

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energy sources, the reusing and repurposing of items in the home, education in respect of the Meres and the Mosses in our locality, composting, waste management, verge rewilding, meadow creation and many more in addition. Again, a local charity was supported and benefitted from Raffle monies and monies raised from the sale of tea and homemade cakes. Further, there was a rolling programme of talks on the hour throughout the day dealing with the science behind Climate, renewable energy now and in the future, verges rewilding and meadow creation. Residents were also invited to register their interest with a view to visiting homes in the parish and indeed throughout Shropshire during October to view renewable energy initiatives in situ and working. The theme on 30 September was 'to inform and inspire.' The Parish Council endeavoured to do just that. The day was a success on many fronts. The Council will not wait thirteen years before the next 'Big Green Day'.

In these circumstances the Parish Council consider itself to be a suitable candidate for the Jan Snell Award. Both Councillors and Clerk are proud of our achievements particularly the recent re-accreditation and will continue to work as hard as is possible for our rural community in North Shropshire.

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



Welshampton and Lyneal Parish Council  
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