



**Bishopston Community Council
Newsletter
Cyngor Cymuned Llandeleilo
Autumn - 2021**



Retirement of our Council Clerk

Vince Price, Clerk to the Community Council has retired after 7 years dedicated service. During his time in the role, Vince has worked tirelessly on behalf of The Bishopston Community. We are all very grateful for his efforts and hope he will enjoy his retirement. Here is Vince and his wife at his retirement party with our Chair, Susan Dunce and our new Clerk, Rhian Hill.

Our best wishes for your future Vince. Thank you very much for all you have done for our community.

VOCAL EYES IS ONLINE SURVEY SOFTWARE USED FOR CREATING AND VOTING ON THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE DONE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

VocalEyes (machine@vocaleyes.org)

A VocalEyes report for Bishopston community Plastic-free Bishopston...Better playground facilities for children...Free from plastic water bottles...Keep Bishopston Tidy...Parking for Bikes...Say no to storing nuclear waste in Gower...To improve the park near the coop (in Bishopston)...Plant more trees...Helping to preserve the village's rural identity...Create Bishopston & Murton Youth Council...View Our Priorities...Download the VocalEyes app...Brought to you by Our Social & Environmental Mission...To provide participatory democracy, budgeting and organising tools, training and ongoing support for an international movement of community organisers, enabling local people to empower their communities, groups and workplaces and bring about widespread positive change. We aim to assist schools, organisations and communities to develop processes for discovering, adapting and replicating solutions that mitigate against social and climate breakdown and support progress towards the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), helping to build a sustainable world for future generations.

Community Council Contact Details

If you would like to hire the Community Centre for a class, group or special event, or if you have any other queries or concerns, please contact our new clerk Rhian Hill.

Rhian was appointed as our new clerk in September and has settled in really well.

Rhian is friendly and approachable, and we are sure she will do great things for the community in this role.



**Rhian Hill. Clerk to Bishopston County Council,
36 Pennard Drive, Southgate, Swansea, SA3 2BL
email: bishopstoncommunitycouncil@outlook.com Tel: 07389765826**



Welcome to the role Rhian!



Friday Art Club is back from 1.30pm -3.30pm at £3.50 a session ... You only pay when you attend... Newcomers are welcolm... Please phone Joan Lewis 232392

COPLEY COMMON UPDATE

Lyndon Jones, Jake Gates, Sam the architect, Jed Wood

The Bishopston Community Council and the Bishopston Skatepark Project are working on the plans to build a pump track on Mansel Green. We have had a pre-planning response back from Swansea Council. We are working on addressing all



their concerns in the full planning application.

We are also getting help from the construction firm KIER who are building/developing the Bishopston Comprehensive School. We have been lucky enough to be selected as one of Bishopston Comprehensive Schools Cross Country run charities so some of the money raised by the pupils at the school will go back to the project. We have also been selected as winners for the "Start Something Good" Competition run by Big Ideas Wales. In the summer holidays we hosted 3 skate sessions at Bishopston Primary School. Every session was a success and fully booked with participants. We will keep

you updated as things move forward. We were presented with a certificate from Bishopston Comprehensive School from the Headteacher J Bird and Christina from Big Ideas Wales.



We have a stock of litter pickers at the Community Centre

Please get in touch to take them out and about and do your bit to keep our village clean and tidy. Some of our residents take them out regularly to keep this village looking spick and span. Let's all do our bit to keep our village "Clean and Green". If you want to organise a litter pick call us or drop us a message on Facebook

Bishopston Community Council needs new Councillors.

We are looking for enthusiastic local people to join our team of volunteers. We currently have three positions available To apply please contact our Clerk Rhian Hill with your details and a brief description of what you could bring to the Council.

The Incredible Seed Library

The library has had a very successful first season with over 250 people accessing seeds and training to save open pollinated seeds. The training was run on Zoom because of Covid restrictions so we recorded the session and have uploaded it onto our new YouTube channel which is called 'Incredible Seed Library'. There are plans to record a series of 'Seed Shorts' which will look at single species or drying and winnowing seed over the winter.

We have installed a rainwater harvesting system to water the plants we grow from seed and will be installing a new poly tunnel next spring to help with isolating plants and avoid cross pollination. This equipment was purchased with a small grant from the Postcode Lottery.

There are also plans to offer some small in person workshops for volunteers to print the seed packets and packing seeds ready for next year. These will be advertised on our Incredible Seed Library Facebook group as well as by email. If you would like to be added to our email list then email me at incredibleseedlibrary@gmail.com

The seed library has saved a wide selection of open pollinated seeds ready for next year, and we are receiving a steady selection of seeds from our seed guardians. The new list will be published in November. If you have saved some open pollinated seeds then we would be delighted if you sent us some. Just email me for the address.

Monthly Coffee Mornings on Murton Green

Dates for your diary are 30th October (details later on), 27th November, 1st January 2022, 29th January 2022

Following a pandemic which has been lonely for many, and from our enjoyment meeting you through Grub Club and other services provided by the Gower Isolation Support Group, we will be holding Coffee Mornings on the last Saturday of every month (except December as its Christmas Day) but two in January to brighten the January Blues, Yay!

What went on in The Great Big Green Week!



This November world leaders will gather at the UN Climate Summit, COP26, to decide the next steps for us to change and avoid the worst effects of climate change. The national Climate Coalition promoted the Great Big Green Week between the 18th-26th September. Communities all over the country organised environmental themed events to highlight the upcoming climate change talks, including Swansea. This included a Repair Cafe at the Environment Centre, Swansea Community Growers

network event: Skills for Future Resilience, Bat walk at Penllegare Valley woods to name a few. Climate and Community organised a Climate Cafe and film show here in Murton on Saturday the 25th, outdoors in their field and under canvas. The main documentary shown was about the Civilian Conservation Corps, but what was that and why is it relevant to the current Climate Emergency? From 1933-42



3million volunteer enrolees signed up to live in rural camps and carry out emergency conservation work. This was part of Roosevelt's New Deal. The economic depression had created high unemployment levels especially in the young. America was suffering from vast areas of environmental degradation in the form of soil erosion and flooding caused by intensive farming methods and deforestation. During those 9 years over 1 billion trees were planted as well as a whole range of practical land based environmental work. The lesson to be applied from the CCC related to the practical response to a massive social, economic and environmental

problem. It took young people out of the city housed them in camps and trained them in sustainable skills. The outcome was positive for the people and the planet. Climate and Community would like to build on networks in the community so that we can start facilitating a Climate Conservation Camp for the current Climate Emergency. Climate and Community will be having a regular green film event, in the field under canvas. Our film archive is diverse including shorts from 100 years of cinema so please email or message if you would like more information, also check our Facebook page. Jules mob 07964530436 climateandcommunity.org.uk

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2021/1911/FUL 74 Mansfield Road, Murton,
Swansea, SA3 3AG

2021/1601/FUL 96 Mansfield Road, Murton,
Swansea, SA3 3AG

2021/1668/TCA The Beeches, 11 Bishopston Road,
Bishopston, Swansea, SA3 3EH

2021/2001/FUL Former Tree Tops Day Nursery,
Clyne Common, Swansea, SA3 3JB

2021/2364/TCA 32 Holts Field, Murton, Swansea,
SA3 3AQ

2021/2374/FUL 12 Broadmead Crescent,
Bishopston, Swansea, SA3 3BA

SEATING

The community council are now looking to replace the broken and rusted benches on Murton green.

We would welcome your input regarding the situation, any dedications and also donations to the individual bench seats. If you are interested in dedicating a bench or supporting our mission to buy more benches for the village, then please contact the clerk.



"Hedgehog Highways" Question - Why do hedgehogs cross the road? Sounds a bit like the beginning of a joke, sadly it's not. Hedgehogs have to continually cross from front garden to front garden, because they cannot access our back gardens to roam freely from one to the other. Gloucester Wildlife Trust saw a 39% increase in sightings during a project to raise awareness of this problem. A little gap, whether in your fence, hedge, or simply a tunnel under your boundary need only be 15cm X 13cm. Keep it simple or put a little sign up saying Hedgehogs Welcome! Hedgehogs need to put on weight in order to hibernate so this time of year it's crucial

they find beetles, caterpillars and worms to munch on. Hedgehog food is widely available (it's in our local farm shop), just put it in an accessible place. Hedgehogs will wake if it is freezing, their bodies warn them they are in danger and they will look for food. Sadly, I found one frozen to death a few years ago, it was too small to survive the winter, it just couldn't get back to our garage where we had a loose bale of straw in which it must have been sleeping. Hedgehog numbers have halved in rural locations since 2000, a shocking figure and it really is our fault. Let's help them and make hedgehog highways in Murton and Bishopston so they can wander freely, feeding and seeking shelter. You can get information from www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk and www.hedgehogstreet.org. contribution from Heidi Morgan

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Coffee Mornings

On the Final Saturday of each month we will be opening the Community Centre for tea, coffee, cake and conversation.

Bishopston Community Council
Would like to invite you

**Saturday
October
30th**

Between
10 & 12
O'Clock



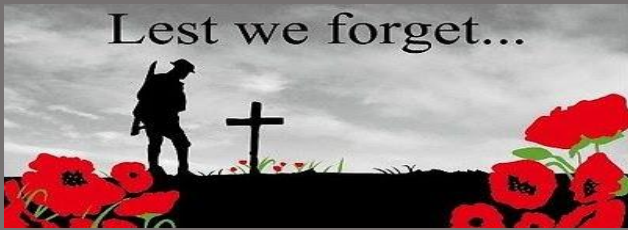
Bring your
dressed up
little ones for
some
Halloween
treats

Our 1st Monthly Coffee Morning,
Community Centre, Murton Green

*All Welcome, for Cake &
Conversation*

SATURDAY 13TH NOVEMBER, REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Lest we forget...



There will be a service to commemorate those in the armed forces who have served or given their lives for their country.

🎵 🎺 🎷 **Carol Service** 🎵 🎺 🎷

**Wednesday 15th December
6:30pm**

All are welcome to join our annual service to be held at Bishopston Community Centre.

This is always a lovely event with the Salvation Army Band and lots of wonderful mince pies provided by the lovely ladies of the WI.

- Autumn/Winter 2021

**WE ARE REALLY HAPPY TO CONFIRM
THAT THE FIREWORKS WILL BE GOING
AHEAD THIS YEAR.**

**7PM FRIDAY 5TH NOVEMBER AT
MURTON GREEN.**

**THERE WILL BE
HOTDOGS WITH VEGAN AND VEGGIE
OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE IN
THE HALL**

**PLEASE ADHERE TO THE STRICT
GUIDANCE WE WILL BE PUTTING IN
PLACE TO MAKE THIS EVENT RUN
SMOOTHLY.**

**NO SPARKLERS ALLOWED ON SITE.
PLEASE CONTACT OUR CLERK IF YOU
CAN ASSIST WITH THIS EVENT ON THE
NIGHT.**

WE NEED MORE STEWARDS

FRIDAY 3RD DECEMBER

Christmas will truly have arrived when our Christmas tree lights are switched on. This year we are joining up with the local primary HSA (Home School Association) to create a

CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR



Look out for more details on notice boards and via Facebook and school



Working for YOU Cllr. Lyndon Jones

The Ford in Church Lane: The restoration of the Ford in Church Lane is now complete. It's a wrap! I am told that the restoration was talked about for many years, so with the help of Helen Nicholas, I am pleased to be able to deliver it, for future generations to enjoy! Big thanks to Alan Jones, the stonemason who worked on the project. I am also very grateful to the team from Swansea Council for all their support, to make this happen. The ford is the last of its kind in Gower and was in desperate need of restoration and unless this was done, it would have been lost forever.

Bishopston Park: It's great news that at last, the work to refurbish Bishopston Park is under way. This follows on from my successful bid for funds from Swansea Council to buy play equipment for the park in Wellfield and it will be a great start in upgrading the park. Listening to the children, the new equipment will include a zip wire, swings with different seat choices to suit different ages, a slide, a seesaw, a multi-use springer and a uniplay unit including a slide. We were able to make these choices following consultation with pupils from the Primary School and a survey conducted by the Community Council, to find out what children actually wanted to see in the park. It was so important to listen to their views. Cllr. Susan Dunce, Cllr. Lucie Rees-Sudbury and Cllr. Lynne Ellis from Bishopston Community Council and I have been working hard to deliver this for our community and are so pleased that after many years, it is actually going to happen. Also, I am grateful to the team from Swansea Council for all their help with this process.

More Daffodils! We are coming to the end of the season for the hanging baskets and the troughs on the bridge in Murton along with the wild flowers at sites around the villages. I hope you agree that they have looked fantastic and I am pleased to organise them each year. Last year I ordered 2000 mixed daffodil bulbs to be planted throughout the Bishopston Ward and they looked fantastic, particularly in Murton Green. So I am pleased to say that I have just ordered a further 2500 daffodils to be planted shortly, but will concentrate this planting in other areas including Pyle Corner.

Update on the Cycle Track Walkway across Clyne Common:

Good progress is being made with land acquisition for the cycle path / walkway across Clyne Common to Murton. Patrick Tribe, Barrie Cooper and I have also had very productive meetings with the Active Travel team at Swansea Council, around safety, the design of the footpath and the surface of the path, which will be ground breaking. It has been trialled in England and we are going to look at an area that is being tested in Swansea soon. Another meeting is planned shortly, so we can discuss progress and the next steps. Moving forward, we will hold a further consultation meeting at the Bishopston Community Centre, (the last was one of the largest ever held) to view the designs, including changes that will have been made to the design following an ecology study and improved drainage. This will be a great opportunity for you to have your say on these plans for this exciting project, which is welcomed by the vast majority of people of all ages throughout the Bishopston Ward and beyond.

The plan is final design and land acquisition this year, with a view to construction in 2022. Fingers crossed!

Christmas Tree Lights Switch on: I have ordered a 25ft tree which will have a thousand lights and I am arranging a competition in the Bishopston Primary School, with the winner switching on the lights! This year there will be one or two surprises, to make it a truly memorable occasion. So please make a note of the date and watch out for further information!

White Lines on the road near the quarry: I am pleased to have arranged for the white lines on the road and kerb past the quarry from Bishopston Road towards Kittle to be repainted.

The current white lines had all but disappeared, so it was important for them to be repainted, from a road safety point of view, at this section of road. Big thanks to Highways at Swansea Council for doing this work so promptly - the work was done in just six days after my request! However, I was shocked to see that quite a number of cars had already hit the kerb in such a short time - you can quite easily see the tyre marks! Please slow down everyone!

Security Marking:

I was pleased to meet so many people at the Community Centre Car Park in Murton, a few weeks ago, where the police were security marking bikes free of charge. I was very pleased to have organised this and big thanks go to PCSO's Joelle and Alex for all their hard work to make this happen. I am very grateful. I am also grateful to Vince, the retiring clerk to the Community Council, Rhian, the new Clerk and Jim, for their help in setting up and to Jake Gates from the Bishopston Skatepark Project for all his support.

Providence Lane: There has been a delay in work starting in Providence Lane to prevent flooding especially behind the houses in Eastlands, which back onto the footpath. However, I am pleased to say that this work is to start shortly.

Scarecrow Competition: I would like to thank everyone who took part in the 2021 Community Scarecrow Festival, in particular Sharon Latchford who organised it. Well done Sharon! As one of the judges along with Leanne Richards and Siany Martin, we had a

really difficult job, because of the high standard and creativity of each entry. I would like to congratulate the winners, but would also like to thank everyone who took part. I am sure you had as much fun creating the scarecrows as we had when we saw them. Here's to next year.

No 14 Bus: I recently had a very useful meeting with the Managing Director of First Cymru Bus, Jane Reakes-Davies and their Commercial Manager, Owen Williams, which followed on from a Scrutiny Working Group on bus travel that I chaired at Swansea Council. My overall objective is to return the No. 14 bus to an hourly service, but to achieve that, we need to increase the number of passengers, which is currently running at 31% of the usage from exactly two years ago. I mentioned that one of the problems with driving up passenger numbers was the unreliability of the service, and I was asked to report any instances where the bus did not turn up or was late, which I have been doing, so would be grateful if you could let me know of any instances you know of, giving time, date etc and I have been given a direct line to report it. They said that they were very short of drivers and that was also affecting the level of service, but they were keen and committed to improve the service, which was good to hear. However, I did say that if they are short of drivers, they should pull the service from a route where the buses travel more frequently! I am pleased they are going to let me have copies of the timetable, so that we can post on Facebook as well as in the Community Newsletter. First are also going to look at ways they can display the timetable on bus shelters and also let me have details of their app which will give passengers a direct update of bus times. The Rev. Andy Walker raised the issue about the possibility of the No. 117 bus calling at Pennard, which one of the Transport team at Swansea Council was going to look into to see what can be done. My interest in this is that residents from Bishopston could then catch the No. 14 bus to link up with the No. 117, to provide a link to Killay and Sketty, so providing a more joined up service. As I mentioned, it was a very useful meeting and First were prepared to listen and I have had numerous meetings with the transport team at Swansea Council since, to "drive" these requests forward. However, there is a clear need to work on increasing the number of passengers using the service. We will meet again in around three months to review the position, so any feedback would be useful.

Pop up Skate and Scooter sessions: I was delighted to visit the first of three pop up Skate and Scooter sessions held during the summer at Bishopston Primary School, which I helped to facilitate. I was pleased to work with the Bishopston Skatepark Project and Park Lives at Swansea Council, to make this happen and everyone was having great fun. Well done! I was also delighted to meet Charlotte (Houlton) who has joined Elliott Wadley, Jake Gates and the team from the Bishopston Skatepark Project to make sure the proposed pump track is accessible for all users, which is so important.

Lyndon Jones

If you want to contact Lyndon, just give him a call on **07880 743578** or e-mail him at: cllr.lyndon.jones@swansea.gov.uk, or message him on the community Facebook page.

Paths and Pictures

This Picture was taken by one of our councillors on a sunny October day, looking out from the cliffs between Pwll Du and Brandy Cove over towards Caswell.



Coming soon we will be including walking routes and maps in our Newsletter so if you know of any lovely walks please message us and we will include them. Please accompany with a picture and whether the walk is easy or difficult. Its lovely for those who can't get to these places to see the pictures and hear about your experiences and for our little ones to learn the paths

This walker went from Longacre to Caswell, through the fields and down the steep steps, up Caswell Bay Road and across the top path to Brandy Cove Lane, across the meadow, up the steep steps (slowly) and out onto the path, across the headland at Pwll Du and up Pwll Du lane to Pyle Corner, then to the school run. About an hour all in all.

A REMINDER

Please can we remind residents that dogs must be picked up after. Please ensure that you pick up your dog mess and take it to the nearest available dog waste bin or take it home. Don't hang it on a tree, don't put it where a bin used to be, don't pile it up on top of a full bin and don't just walk away and ignore it. We have had reports of children falling in dog mess, ending up with it in their hair and on hands and faces. We can do better than this! Please enjoy the village, we have such wonderful paths, beaches, pubs, shops and other amenities. Please treat them respectfully, pick up after your pooches.

Thank you 🙏

