



Blackpill, Derwen Fawr & Mayals Residents' Association October 2021

We hope that you have found this Newsletter interesting and that it keeps you in touch with some of the issues that our neighbours are talking about. If you are not already a member of the Association, perhaps you would consider joining us?

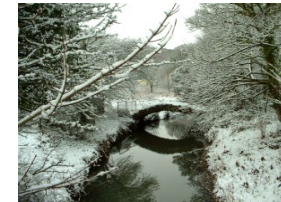
.The Association is a non party political organization whose objectives are:-

- (a) to strive for the protection of our local environment and amenities;
- (b) to ensure that amenities and services are adequate for the area;
- (c) to act for local residents in matters of community interest;
- (d) to promote the interests of local residents and the area's amenities

The Committee now comprises:

Chairman: Brian Miles:	brianmiles46@yahoo.co.uk
Treasurer: Michael Lewis	john@jmlewis42.plus.com
Maggie Crawford	maggie.crawford@sky.com
Val Davies	valdaves24@gmail.com
Sue Davies	susangdavies@gmail.com
Alyson Downey	alysond106@gmail.com
Huw Morgan	huw.morgan@btinternet.com
Phil Slater	slater425@hotmail.com
Mandy Warner	mandwarner@yahoo.co.uk
Secretary: Bill Anderson	billanderson191@outlook.com
	Tel: 523930

Do Pass this On.....Do Keep in Touch



Blackpill, Derwen Fawr & Mayals Residents' Association Newsletter October 2021 Keep Well—Stay Safe



[www.vivianhall.org/clubs and Activities/residents' association](http://www.vivianhall.org/clubs_and_Activities/residents'_association)



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Up dates....

******The much enlarged Skateboard Park at Llwynderw:**

The Judicial Review turned down the application to build the SkatePark because the Council had not followed the correct procedure in the approval process. There is now an application from the Council to give a 25 year lease on the land affected to Mumbles Community Council.

One of the reasons why this location was chosen instead of Underhill Park, in the middle of Mumbles, was because of the anti-social behaviour which had occurred at Underhill Park. The concern is that his behaviour will be transferred to Llwynderw.

Friends of Singleton Park (FoSP).

FoSP is a group of volunteers who meet to do gardening and clearing work in the park and are seeking to support projects that enhance the park in terms of enjoyment for the wider community.

Earlier this summer a mature beech tree was lost due to public safety concerns. It had been affected by heartwood fungus and was deemed unsafe. Most of the tree stock was planted over 100 years ago and, although the Swansea Council tree team has been active especially over the last 20 years, several mature trees have been lost.

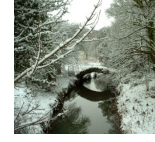


It was decided that the first fundraising project would be to replace four of the trees that have been lost recently due to disease and storms.

They chose oak trees as they are native to the UK and have been prevalent in the park, each one costing £230, started a GoFundMe page and the £1,000 needed was raised quickly.

Sue Davies, a member of the group said "By continued planting we hope that future generations will enjoy the same mature trees and impressive skyline as previous generations have."

For more information, the GoFundMe link is: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/replacement-trees-for-singleton-park>.



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Litter picking on the shore at Blackpill.

A group of twenty met on Saturday 16th October and had a productive two hours. Another session will take place in a few weeks. Interested in joining the next one? Please contact Alyson Downey, alysond106@gmail.com. She will send out details of where and when nearer the time.



Mayals Road Cycle Path

This has not gone away!

The work to create the cycle path is still continuing but surely must end soon. The quality of the work done is very good but the controversy about the design continues.

There is a protest group: Safe Mayals Road. They have drawn up a long list of the aspects of the Cycle Path which fall below the standard required and the places where new dangers have been created. All users of the road have increased dangers, starting with the removal of the islands in the middle of the road which were there to allow children to cross to catch the school bus. There has been a serious accident caused by a downhill cyclist hitting a slowly moving car exiting from the blind access to Mumbles Bay Court. The junction between Owls Lodge Lane and Southerndown Road with Mayals Road worked satisfactorily in the past and the redesign has made congestion and accidents more likely. Near misses are being logged and 35 have been reported so far. If you see anything, please send details to Cllr Louise Thomas <louiset238@gmail.com>.

The Safe Mayals Road group has another meeting planned for Thursday 28th October at 6.30pm in Clyne Farm.

The objective of the Active Travel initiative, to help more people commute by bicycle, is worthy of general support. This expensive development does nothing to help that.



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2021 Annual General Meeting

Owing to Covid restrictions, our AGM was held using Zoom this year. 21 people attended with 12 apologies.

The Chairman first thanked Yvonne Cartwright upon her retirement for her many years of service. He reviewed the position on the many local issues which are current. The Treasurer reported that our funds increased by £36 in the year with bulbs and the Christmas Tree being the main expenditure. Membership increased from 75 to 85 in the year with many paying by Standing Order which we are encouraging.

The Chairman concluded by thanking the Committee for their hard work in this difficult period and expressed the wish that next year's AGM would be held in person since it is a lot more fun!

The Shell Garage Site

At last, a move has been made to develop this site. The low cost and popular supermarket chain, Lidl, lodged a 'Pre-app'. This is a sketched suggestion whose purpose is to seek a response from the various authorities on what their objections would be. This was turned down on several grounds, the main ones being that the site was not within the zone scheduled for retail, insufficient parking space was available for the size of shop and difficulties with traffic on the busy Mumbles Road. In a pre-app, there is no opportunity for local people to comment.

Since the rejection, Lidl's agent sent a letter to the site's neighbours showing the extensive work that had already been done to deal with the likely problems and indicating that they would not be put off easily. The immediate neighbours are understandably strongly against the proposal since it is likely to involve considerable activity, noise and loss of privacy. The next step will be for Lidl to lodge a full Planning Application and that will be the chance for local people to comment.

Advantages would be to allow shopping without having to drive through the City centre, reducing fuel use and congestion, and getting rid of an unsightly site (sorry!).



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Blackpill Post Office

Angela and John have settled into their new position and have brought new services to the Shop. There is a coffee machine and a Lottery station. Also they are starting a Home Delivery Service, covering the newspaper delivery area, on Tuesdays and Fridays. The amazing selection of goods available is detailed in a leaflet or you can call them on 401689.

Active Travel Route Consultation.

There is a new map available which shows where the next phase of Cycle Paths is going. Please look at: <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/drafttravelmapsurvey> and complete the questionnaire. Have your say!

Blackpill drainage improvement.

There has been recurrent flooding from Brockhole Stream (which drains Clyne Gardens and runs in a series of culverts beside the Woodman pub and under Mumbles Road). This has affected Woodman Lane, houses along Mumbles Road and Mumbles Road traffic.

To explain what is proposed, an online exhibition will be available, from November 1st onwards, on: www.swansea.gov.uk/brockholestreamsurvey. There is a survey which you are asked to complete after viewing the proposal. This has to be submitted by November 22nd. Planning Permission is required and then an application will be made for Welsh Government funding. Until that is granted, no date can be given for the start date.

Neighbourhood Policing

There are three Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) who cover our area.
PCSO Nadia Curry. tel 07805 301583
PCSO Mark Parker. tel 07583 106490
PCSO Fred Lerwell. tel 07805 301605

Mark Parker and Fred Lerwell have to work from home for Covid shielding reasons. They ask us to log 101 calls online rather than calling because they can be dealt with more readily. The link is:

<https://www.south-wales.police.uk/ro/report/>

I am assured that they will be attended to as soon as possible.



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Clyne Valley Community Project(CVCP)

With the Covid restrictions lifting, Clyne Valley Community Project volunteers and the Council Team that we have been working with, have been very busy in the valley this Summer:

12 volunteers worked really hard alongside Chris Dale (Swansea Council) constructing the 3 new bridges over the River Clyne. Despite one pair of wet socks from a dipping, the work parties and were successful. We've had a lot of positive feedback. Each new bridge has had a Dipper nest box fitted beneath it.



Many volunteers worked throughout August measuring and mapping Japanese Knotweed throughout the valley. This survey will enable Swansea Council to organise treatment to begin destroying this invasive species.



Our brush cutting team were out clearing the Blackberry and adjacent paths. We have had more volunteers trained for this activity to share the load next year.

Other groups of volunteers have removed vegetation on the site of Mumbles Road Station, joined several sessions of bracken trampling in Kate's Orchard and participated in litter picking sessions.

We have been working closely with the AONB team who arranged for the restoration

of Sketty Park Gates, mending of Olchfa Bridge, stepping stones near the Canal replacing a bridge that had collapsed some years ago and have placed many new directional signs along Rights of Way throughout the valley.

There are more plans for the valley – watch this space!

Barbara Parry

chair@clynevalleycommunityproject.uk



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Vivian Hall Open Day

Saturday 20th November, 10am to 12 noon

We would like to show everyone how the 100 year old Hall has been modernized and improved using a Lottery Grant. The Hall will be open to anyone who would like to visit at the times shown above. All visitors will be offered tea and cake!

Come and See!

You will see a difference and we hope you will like it.

Vivian Hall update.

The work to refurbish both Halls has nearly finished. There are a few small improvements remaining to be completed but both Halls have been back in use since early September. Many groups have started to meet, some with reduced numbers, but glad to be back.

We have a new floor, stage, heating system, lighting, ventilation and décor and many other smaller improvements. The PA system is updated and wi-fi has been installed.

Externally, the fascia is to be replaced shortly and security cameras installed.



Being awarded the Lottery Grant at the right time, we had the chance to make this transformation with the Hall shut because of Covid . We could not have done it otherwise.

