

# Wick Community Council

NEWSLETTER – December 2015

## Wick Council's First Birthday

It is just one year since the current Community Council was formed and we thought that would be a good time to let you know what we have done during the year.

This year we were able to ensure that the Council's precept was the lowest in the Vale. We have achieved that by careful housekeeping and by the fact that the officers of the council and all of the councillors carry out their roles without claiming either salary or expenses. Every penny which you as rate payers pays towards the Council is spent on providing services for the Community. As well as attending council meetings councillors attend training sessions and represent the community at meetings with other agencies, the Vale Council etc.

## Who we are?

Full details of all our councillors including their addresses, how to contact them and their responsibilities are available on our noticeboard by the school and on our page on the website [www.wickinthevaleofglamorgan.net](http://www.wickinthevaleofglamorgan.net)

Our Chair is Councillor Robin Sheppard, Broughton. Vice Chair Cllr Stewart Dearlove, Cwrt y Felin. Responsible Finance Officer, Cllr Carol Brown, Trepit Road. Clerk Cllr Conway Hawkins, Ewenny Road and Cllr Susan Littleford, Broughton.

We normally meet on the third Thursday of each month and the public are welcome to attend

Normally we have 7 councillors but there are currently 2 casual vacancies on the council, residents who may be interested in filling one of these vacancies should contact The Clerk.

Elections for new councillors will take place in May 2017. To stand for election residents must be included on the Register of Electors and the Community Council urges everyone to make sure that they are registered to vote.

## Play Rangers in Wick – Summer 2015



Wick Community Council was pleased to support the Vale's Play Rangers visits to Wick this year. We were all disappointed when the planned Summer Camp couldn't take place but the Play Rangers made up for it by providing 10 sessions at the Pavilion during the holidays. During the course of those 10 weeks 62 children and young people from the village took part, some attending all ten sessions. We were very lucky with the weather with just 2 days when the weather was poor and even these didn't stop the children, and some of the adults, enjoying their play.

We were all very impressed with the work of the Play Rangers and feedback from children and parents involved was very positive. We hope to be able to support them again next year.

## Village Information Pack

An updated Village Information pack is available on [www.wickinthevaleofglamorgan.net](http://www.wickinthevaleofglamorgan.net)

## **Christmas Activities**

It's not only during the Summer that the Community Council is busy. Our poor Xmas tree, so badly weather beaten over the years has been replaced by a cut tree and there will now be a new one every year.

As well as the Christmas Tree the Community Council is pleased to support Carols on the Green which this year will take place on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Wick Sports Pavilion**

Wick Community Council manages the Pavilion on behalf of the Vale Council. This year the facilities have been improved by the installation of replacement windows and blinds. With the recently installed disabled facilities, heating and lighting this is now a more attractive venue for meetings, small parties, rehearsals, training, talks etc. Wi-Fi is available in conjunction with Wick Youth Club.

We are currently working with the Vale Council to have other facilities at the Pavilion upgraded, especially the kitchen.

Bookings for the Pavilion can be made by email to [wickcommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:wickcommunitycouncil@gmail.com) or phone 07710209437.

## **Storage facilities**

Many community groups in the Village have approached the Community Council over the shortage of storage facilities for equipment etc. We are currently negotiating with the Vale Council to identify a suitable site for a storage container.

## **Reshaping Services**

Residents will be well aware of the difficult financial time facing local government in Wales with the Vale Council having to find considerable savings of around £24 million. Wick Community Councillors have been and will continue to work closely with the Vale Council to ensure that services delivered to residents of Wick are protected. We'll keep you informed of developments as they occur.

## **New Homes Development**

The Vale of Glamorgan Council has now given planning permission for 124 new homes on land at St Brides Road. Wick Community Councillors are concerned that so many new residents will place a considerable strain on local services. We are currently in negotiations with the Vale Council and our Welsh Assembly Member to do all we can to make sure that resources are made available to ensure that a range of community facilities are upgraded so that they are fit for the additional demands which will be made on them by the new residents.

We know that funding is to be made available to the school but we are also keen to ensure that funding is made available to upgrade facilities at Wick Village Hall, Wick Sports Pavilion and The Village Green play facilities. We'll keep you informed about the progress of our negotiations.

## **Wick Community Web**

Wick is a caring, village to live in and many residents are able to call on friends and neighbours in times of crisis but some may not be so fortunate.

Several Community Councils in the area have winter emergency plans to support residents in times of severe weather but Wick Community Council recognises that it is not only bad weather that causes problems for individuals or families. With that in mind Wick Community Council is working with groups in the community, the School, Pensioners, St James Church and Wick Village hall to set up Wick Community Web, a system which will give anyone facing a short term crisis a number to call to access a list of neighbours who have said that they are willing to offer a helping hand.

Every household in Wick and Broughton has had a leaflet describing the scheme and asking who would be able to help. To date more than 25 residents have responded with offers of 4x4's generators, lifts, shopping, prescriptions etc. We plan to launch the scheme formally at Wick Pensioner's Fayre on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Further details of the scheme, who to call etc will be circulated soon after that.

On behalf of the Council thank you to all of you who have responded. It's not too late if you feel you could help, email the Community Council.