



PONTHIR COMMUNITY
COUNCIL

FREE

EDITION 8 - WINTER 2017 / 2018

COMMUNITY MATTERS

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DON'T MISS OUR

FREE TREE LIGHTING EVENT 2017 - EVERYONE WELCOME

Friday 8th December at Ponthir Village Hall
from 6.30pm until 9pm.

Performances by pupils from Ponthir Church
in Wales School, Severn Tunnel Band &
Spellbound.

Raffle to be held with proceeds being used for
village improvements.

For further information on any of these articles please email
clerk@ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk or phone 07971 948351

A copy of this document could be made available in Welsh. Please
contact us on the telephone number or e-mail below/Mae dogfen
yma yn ar gael mewn gwefan ni www.ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk
Mae copi or ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg. Cysylltwch a ni ar
y rhif ffôn neu drwy e-bost isod. Telephone/ Ffôn: 07971948351
E-Mail/ E-bost: clerk@ponthircommunitycouncil.gov.uk

MEET YOUR NEW COUNCILLORS

During the summer we advertised that there were three Ponthir Community Councillor vacancies and after considering all the applications received, co-opted the following new councillors.



Paul Davies

Moving to the village in 1996, I married my wife in the Ponthir Baptist Church in March 1997.

I am a qualified Electro/Mechanical Engineer with a career history in engineering in both pharmaceutical and food production finally rising to director level.

Having been part of the community for over twenty years I am keen to support current and future projects to ensure that the villages of Ponthir and Llanfrechfa remain communities to be proud of.



Ian Danaher

I have been a resident of Ponthir for 25 years living in The Oaklands with wife Clare and sons Sam and Josh.

Working as an Accounts Manager for Legal and General based in Cardiff, Clare and I moved to the Village in 1992. Both of our boys were educated at Ponthir C in W School and Caerleon Comprehensive before going on to University. During this period I was a School Governor at Ponthir serving as Chair for 6 years. I spent 13 years as a Coach and Manager of teams at Ponthir AFC and was also involved with the Ponthir District Sports Club.

I see my role as one to support village projects to benefit both young and old residents and make Ponthir an even better place to live.



Louise Ryan-Scales

I am a Ponthir resident and apart from a few years, have lived here my whole life. As a child I attended Ponthir Playgroup, Ponthir CV School, the Sunday School / Youth Club at the Baptist Church and Ponthir Brownies.

My family and I love living in Ponthir and are actively involved in village life. My three children currently attend Ponthir School and I am a member of the 'Friends of Ponthir School' involved in organising the events and fundraising.

Since becoming a Community Councillor I was pleased to be recently nominated to represent the Community Council on Ponthir Church in Wales School's Governing Body. I am keen to be involved in organising future community events for the benefit of all residents of Ponthir and Llanfrechfa.

PONTHIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Ponthir Community Council meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at Ponthir District Sports Club starting at 7pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The dates of the monthly meetings up to May 2018 are as follows:

2017
11th December

2018
8th January, 12th February
12th March, 9th April, 14th May (Including Annual Meeting)

GWENT BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION 2017 – RESULT

Although not winning a prize this year we are pleased to inform residents that Ponthir scored 84%, a slight increase on last year's mark.

The judges commented favourably on:

- The lovely flower boxes
- Bus shelters were clean and tidy
- Public house was well maintained with nice colourful flowers and good parking.
- Church yard clean and tidy
- Overall impressions of Ponthir were very good
- Congratulations to the Ponthir Village Hall which won the best Kept Village Hall.

Llanfrechfa was also entered into this year's competition and whilst not scoring as highly as in previous years the judges commented favourably on:

- The main parts of the village were well maintained and litter free
- Houses and gardens attractive with a range of planting
- The public house was attractively planted with containers and baskets
- The beautiful churchyard was well maintained and open to the public – a bonus!

We would like to thank all our residents and visitors who have helped keep Ponthir & Llanfrechfa clean and tidy during the year. Keep a look out for our next Ponthir Village Clean Up Event in the Spring 2018 – All Volunteers Welcome.



LLANFRECHFA GRANGE WALLED GARDEN

The Victorian Walled Garden at Llanfrechfa Grange has been redesigned and will be restored to provide an uplifting green space for the benefit of the hospital and the local community. Set out in four quadrants the garden will provide an area for quiet contemplation, a productive garden, a grassy community area, and a focus for therapeutic horticulture. New gateways and a central path will provide a walkway between the old manor house and the new Grange University Hospital.

The Friends of Llanfrechfa Grange Walled Garden, the charity leading the restoration, have achieved a great deal since their establishment in December 2015 but there is much more to do. A planting plan for the garden, together with designs for paths, seating areas and shelters are nearing completion. A combination of donated materials and fundraising activities will enable volunteers to turn their plans into reality.

We have a new shed and greenhouse which are fully used by our regular volunteers.

Our second hand poly tunnel is going up and will be fitted with a brand new cover.

The walls are being repaired as part of the new hospital work programme.

To find out more about the project take a look at the gardens website <https://llanfrechfawalledgarden.wordpress.com/> or follow them on Facebook at Llanfrechfa grange walled garden. If you would like to get involved as a volunteer contact the garden team via the web links or e-mail info.lgh.garden@gmail.com

AUTUMN UPDATE FROM GIRLGUIDING IN PONTHIR

Guiding in the Ponthir community continues to go from strength to strength with girls from the ages of 5 to 14 years old having been offered an amazing array of opportunities and activities.

The youngest section; Rainbows, have been to the Farm to Fork trail and completed a sponsored walk, the Brownies have recently returned from the unit's first ever pack holiday in an adventure centre in Brecon and the Guides enjoyed the 'Big Gig' in Wembley during October and have been working hard to stock a stall for the Ponthir Christmas Fayre.

All units have a very healthy waiting list so sadly some girls cannot be offered places for many months. We are desperate for additional volunteers.



- Would you be able to help deliver Girlguiding's exciting programme to more of the girls in our community?
- Want to be part of something that is buzzing, growing and exciting?
- Want support to develop your skills and confidence?

If so we would love to hear from you! District Commissioner Leanne Murray can be contacted for further information at caerleondistrict@gmail.com

DIARY OF EVENTS

1st December

Ponthir Church in Wales School Christmas Fayre 3.30pm

3rd December

1st Sunday in Advent, Ponthir Baptist Church 10.30am

3rd December

Advent Carol Service, All Saints Church 6pm

7th December

Village Carol Service, Ponthir Baptist Church 7pm

8th December

Ponthir Christmas Tree Lighting Event 6.30pm to 9pm

10th December

Christingle Service, All Saints Church 10.30 am

17th December

Nine Lessons and Carols, All Saints Church 6pm

19th December

Ponthir Rainbow/Brownies/Guides Carol Service, Ponthir Baptist Church 6.30pm

24th December

Christmas Eve Morning Service, All Saints Church 10.30 am

24th December

Christmas Eve Morning Carol Service, Ponthir Baptist Church 10.30am

24th December

Midnight Mass Service, St Cadoc's Church, Caerleon 11pm

25th December

Christmas Day Morning Service, All Saints Church 10.30am

19th January 2018

Friends of Ponthir Quiz Night, Ponthir Church in Wales School, 7.30pm

23rd June 2018

Ponthir Church in Wales School Summer Fayre



AUTUMN UPDATE FROM FRIENDS OF PONTHIR SCHOOL

The Friends of Ponthir School are primarily a fundraising association who support the school and aim to advance the education of the children within it. However, we also aim to bring families, teachers and the wider community together to enjoy our events.

We are currently fundraising for much needed improvements to the outdoor learning spaces at the school. We are looking to completely overhaul these areas including the provision of outdoor shelters, meaning they can be used for learning and development all year round and in all weathers.

We are a registered charity, No. 1078245, and regularly hold fundraising events to help us raise money to improve the school. Details of our forthcoming events are included in the Diary of Events section and can be found on the school's website www.ponthirchurchschool.co.uk

If you would like to contact us, we are on Facebook @ponthirciwschool and Twitter or you can email us at maryleighton@hotmail.co.uk