



2025 Newsletter
mumbles.gov.uk

Letter from the Chair of Mumbles Community Council

Cllr William Thomas



This past year has been one of the most significant periods of responsibility and delivery for Mumbles Community Council. When we had to step in and take over operational control of Underhill at very short notice, our staff, our councillors and our partners responded in an

exceptional way. I want to publicly say how proud I am of the MCC team for stepping up, for the community and local sports clubs, showing what can be achieved when our community pulls together.

We now move into the exciting phase of shaping the long-term vision and proposal for the Underhill Hub and the artificial pitch – not just as facilities, but as a community asset that will serve Mumbles families, sport, culture, wellbeing and local life for many years to come.

I would also like to thank Swansea Council for the financial support they provided to help enable that transition. It made a real difference, and the collaboration between MCC and Swansea Council on Underhill should be recognised as a positive example of partnership working.

Alongside Underhill, MCC has also commissioned the refurbishment of the Langland basketball court and new bollard lighting for Underhill – both of which will begin shortly. And of course, we are extremely proud of the new sea wall, which not only protects homes but has also become a fantastic improvement to the public realm and the look and feel of the village.

I also want to highlight that this year Mumbles Community Council was awarded Best Local Council Service in Wales at the One Voice Wales Awards – a huge achievement and a powerful recognition of the progress, improvement, professionalism and ambition we have shown as a Council over recent years.

Looking ahead, we are entering a two-year period where there will be elections at both Senedd level and then Local Government level. That will inevitably bring noise, debate, and politics into the public sphere. But as Chair, I want MCC to remain focused firmly on delivery – delivering community facilities, delivering improvements, delivering events, and delivering real value for the people of Mumbles. Not distraction... but collaboration. Not division... but shared purpose.

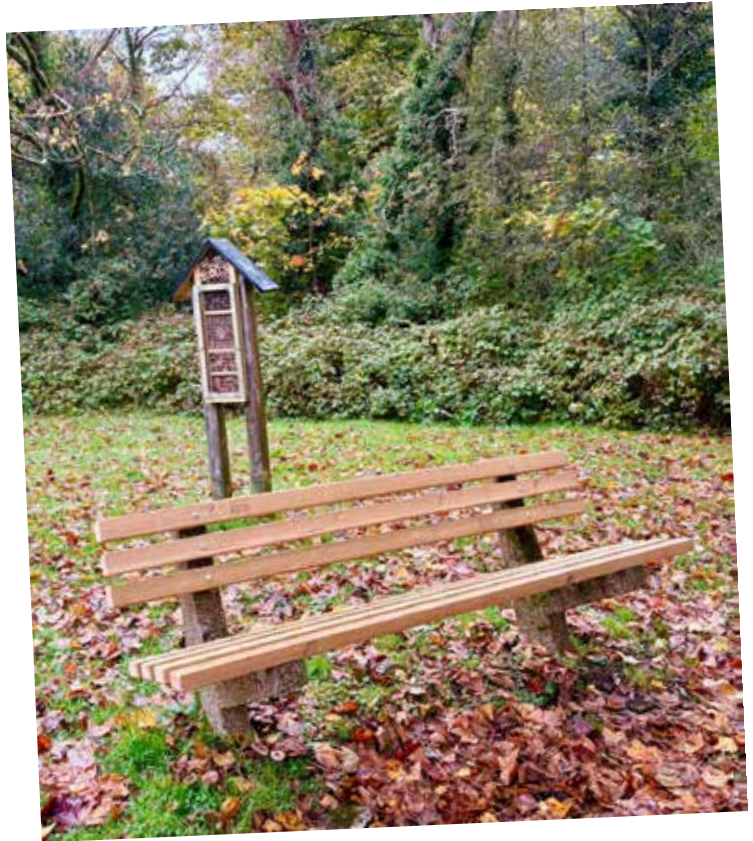
William Thomas

Mayals Ward

Mumbles Community Council (MCC) has been working closely with Mayals residents and local groups to enhance the area.

Bulbs

- Thousands of Welsh spring bulbs—daffodils, bluebells, snowdrops, crocus, anemone, and tulips—were planted across Mayals.
- The vibrant displays brought joy to residents, with more planting planned for 2026.
- Special thanks to St James' Vet for their £100 donation.



Benches

- MCC repaired broken benches using new wooden slats, keeping costs to just £100 in materials.
- Huge thanks to Phil Slater for his skilled volunteer work restoring seating across the ward.

Mayals Ward

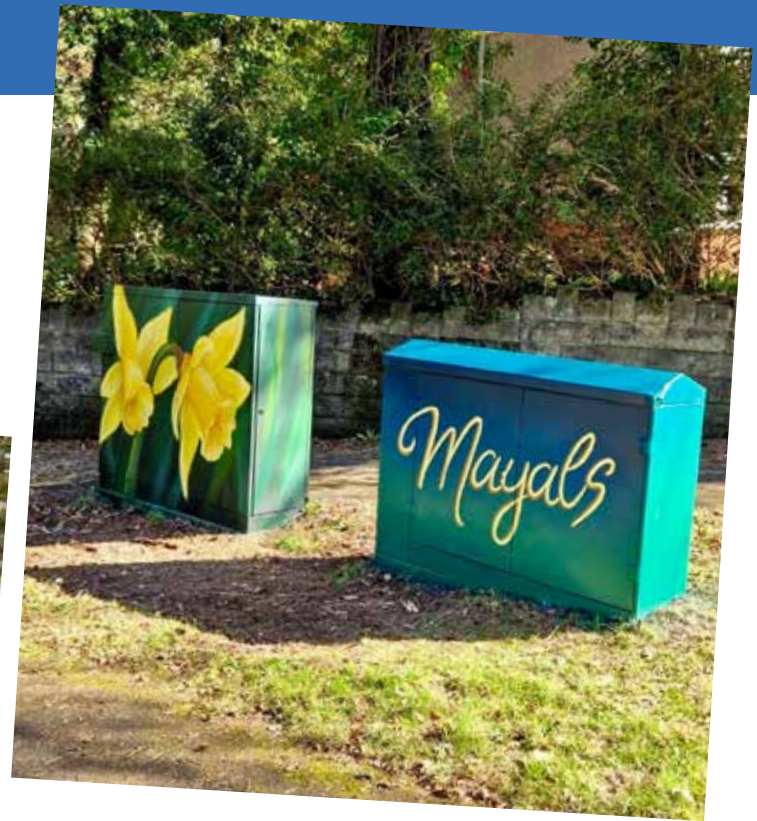
Bug Hotel

- Two wooden posts near Owls Lodge Lane were transformed into a bug hotel.
- This charming feature supports local biodiversity thanks to those who helped with this.



Little Book Stop

- Huge well done to retired teacher Kath Ferguson who helped secure a Penguin "Little Book Stop" for Mayals.
- One of only 90 awarded across the UK to mark Penguin's 90th birthday, chosen from over 2,000 applicants.



Painted Electrical Boxes

- Seven electrical boxes were painted with designs inspired by local landmarks:
 - Japanese Bridge
 - Clyne Ponds
 - Blackpill Beach
 - Daffodils on Mayals Road
 - Roman Bridge on Mill Lane
- These vibrant artworks celebrate Mayals' heritage and brighten the streets.

Mayals Ward

Summer of Fun

- August's Summer of Fun event in Clyne Gardens welcomed over 400 attendees.
- Supported by Mumbles Rangers, Nellie May Chips, Go Explore Learn, Organised Kaos circus skills, and more.
- A day filled with sunshine, laughter, and community spirit.



Clyne Gardens Shelter

- MCC helped design and part-fund a new outdoor shelter near the Touring Tea Room.
- Led by Friends of Clyne Gardens, built by Dragonfly Creations Ltd using Gower Hardwood and recycled Welsh Slate.
 - A beautiful new feature for visitors to enjoy.



Cllr
**Helen
Nelson**



Cllr
**Tim
Zohu**



Cllr
**Laura
Gilbert**

Newton Ward

Mumbles Seawall Defence Project

The Mumbles Seawall Defence Project is now complete, and the transformation is truly impressive. This summer the commemorative plaque was officially unveiled, marking the end of a major milestone. With elegant festoon lighting and thousands of vibrant plants and shrubs, the promenade now offers a warm and inviting atmosphere for residents and visitors.

Seawall and Local Improvement

- The promenade has been enhanced with festoon lighting and large-scale planting of shrubs and seasonal displays.
- New play equipment includes a slide connecting the prom to the playground, adding a fun link for children and families.
- Forty-seven new seating options have been installed: accessible picnic benches; wall seating; large island-style benches; and sun loungers for relaxation.



Community Projects Underhill Hub

- MCC is managing Underhill Hub until the end of the year; the venue has been busy and well used by the community.
- MCC have agreed Additional bollard lighting at Underhill will be installed imminently to improve the route from the car park to the pitch during darker evenings.
- Toast and Toys is a new event and runs every Thursday, 9:00-12:00 – free toast, toys, and a friendly space for carers and children.

Newton Ward

Family Funday at Underhill Park

Earlier this year, Underhill Park came alive with our Family Funday – a brilliant afternoon of laughter, activities and community spirit. Families from across Mumbles joined us for a packed day of entertainment, from children’s games and arts & crafts, to sports tasters and live demonstrations.

The sun shone, local groups got involved, and the park was filled with smiling faces. Events like this remind us just how special our community is, and we’re grateful to everyone who came along, volunteered, supported and helped make the day such a success.



Father Christmas Train Ride

Our Father Christmas Train Ride returned to Mumbles after the huge success of last year’s event – and once again it was an instant hit with families across the community. In fact, it sold out quicker than Father Christmas coming down the chimney!

Children enjoyed a magical journey along the prom, meeting Father Christmas himself, soaking up the Christmas spirit before heading off to see the Christmas lights being switched on. The atmosphere was full of excitement, laughter and wonder, making it one of our most loved seasonal events to date.



Cllr
**William
Thomas**



Cllr
**Angela
O Connor**



Cllr
**Rob
Marshall**



Cllr
**Ian
Scott**

West Cross Ward

The West Cross Community Centre (WXCC) continues to thrive as a hub of activity and connection, thanks to the support of Mumbles Community Council (MCC) and dedicated volunteers.

Family Fun Fridays & Warm Hub

- Held twice a month, Family Fun Fridays offer karaoke, crafts, board games, War Hammer painting, and Pokémon nights.
- Children enjoy the spacious hall while adults relax with soup, pizza, cake, and a cuppa.
- PCSOs regularly attend, strengthening community ties.
- The Warm Hub returns weekly from November, offering a cosy space to connect and share a meal.



Community Quiz Nights

- Now in its fourth year, the monthly quiz takes place every third Friday.
- Rotating quizmasters and diverse participants keep things fresh.
- Snacks provided; guests may bring their own drinks.
- Supported by Tesco and Co-op donations, coordinated by West Cross Caffi volunteers.

West Cross Ward

Spooky Season & Festive Fun

- Halloween highlights: fancy dress disco, face painting, spooky science, and hotdogs.
- New this year: "Halloweiner Gig" featuring local Swansea bands Wistful, SPWCI, and Doork.
- Christmas events include festive crafts, Santa's grotto (with PCSOs), and the Christmas Quiz on 19th December.



West Cross Caffi at Baywood Community Hall

- Launched this year, the Caffi runs on a community pantry model.
- Offers affordable food and a welcoming space to chat.
- Volunteers, PCSOs, Local Area Coordinators, and MCC councillors regularly attend.



West Cross Ward

Red Community Project & Youth Engagement

- The Linden Centre hosts:
 - Local Food Bank
 - Weekly Community Brunch
 - Monthly lunches
 - Musical Memories Choir
- MCC supports the West Cross Youth Club (Years 6–9) with term-time youth-led activities.



**Cyng
Phil
Keeton**



**Cyng
Sara
Keeton**



**Cyng
Pam
Erasmus**



**Cyng
David
Lewis**



**Cyng
Rebecca
Fogarty**

**Cyng
Xanthe Keeton**

Jubilee Gardens

Officially opened in April, Jubilee Gardens is a wildlife haven of sustainable native plants.

- Thanks to staff and volunteers, it's now a peaceful spot for both wildlife and visitors.
- Feel free to stop by next time you're passing!



Oystermouth Ward

Oystermouth continues to be a vibrant and close-knit community, with residents, local groups and businesses all contributing to the unique spirit of the ward.

At the Ostreme Centre, MCC funded a new special-occasion light to mark awareness events and celebrations.

- The light was first switched on for Baby Loss Awareness Week and was most recently used to celebrate Diwali, offering a visible symbol of unity and remembrance.

Events and Activities

- Recent VE Day 80th anniversary celebrations at Ostreme Hall were a great success, featuring entertainment by Rob Hendry and singing by RAF Sweetheart Madlen Forward.
- Four first Folk n Blues taster session got underway at The Vic and we hope will be even bigger when it returns next year.

Oystermouth School Bug Hunt

Upper Norton Field Allotment Association kindly hosted a Bug Hunt for children from Oystermouth Primary School. The children took insect ID cards and bug pots to see what insects they could find on places such as compost heaps, wildflower areas, raised beds and veg patches to learn about the importance of pollinators and invertebrates for healthy soil and plants.

Mumbles Gardeners Question Time

Mumbles GQT returned for a second year with an audience of over 50 people listening to guest judges Teifion Davies, Megan Jordan, Kate Davies and Magge Carr answering questions on subjects as diverse as dealing with common pests and diseases, choosing plants to give all round colour to how to encourage more bees and pollinators to visit your garden. Look out for Mumbles GQT 26 coming in March.

MumblesFest Litter Pick

A small but mighty team of litter pickers ensured that the street around the castle were left spotless after MumblesFest.

Support Café

The Support Café has provided a safe, understanding and inclusive space for those looking for a listening ear or a moment of calm. Residents have been able to drop in, talk openly, or simply sit and enjoy the supportive environment created by volunteers and staff. Whether someone needed advice, reassurance, or just a friendly face, the Support Café has been there to help. We're incredibly grateful to everyone who has contributed to making this initiative such a valued part of our community offer.

Oystermouth Ward

Oystermouth Family Fun Day

August saw the return of the ever popular Family Fun Days. Oystermouth Fun Day was held at Underhill Park with children enjoying, bouncy castles, football and environmental crafts followed by sandwiches provided by West Cross Caffi using surplus bread from local supermarkets.

Mumbles Crop Collective

The Mumbles Crop Collective project has started in Norton Nature Reserve with raised beds and a greenhouse. Over the summer volunteers planted salads, tomatoes, brassicas, radishes and beetroot and were rewarded for their efforts with lovely fresh produce to take home. New beds are planned for the Ostreme Centre and outside Jubilee Garden and come spring they will be in full production.

Mumbles Buzz and Bloom

The 2025 Mumbles Buzz and Bloom Competition culminated in a Presentation Event at Underhill Hub in November. Teifion Davies, previously of Clyne Gardens, gave a talk on local fungi - who knew it could be so interesting! - and then presented the prizes to the best gardens, large and small, from across the four corners of the MCC area.



Coffee with Friends

Our Coffee with Friends sessions continued to bring people together for relaxed conversation, company and connection. Held regularly in a welcoming setting, these gatherings offered residents a chance to meet new people, share stories and enjoy a warm drink in good company. The friendly atmosphere has made "Coffee with Friends" a simple but meaningful way to strengthen community spirit, and we're delighted to see it growing in popularity.



Cllr
**Martin
O'Neill**



Cllr
**Richard
Jarvis**



Cllr
**Carrie
Townsend
Jones**



Cllr
**Trevor
Carr**



Cllr
**Francesca
O'Brien**

Season's Greetings from Mumbles Community Council

As the year draws to a close, we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone in our community. May this festive season bring joy, peace, and comfort to you and your loved ones.

Address: Minor Hall, Ostreme Centre, Castle Avenue, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 4BA **Phone:** 01792 363598

Email: council@mumbles.gov.uk

Website: www.mumbles.gov.uk

Local Charities Offering Festive Support in Swansea & Mumbles

Jac Lewis Foundation (Swansea) – Mental health and wellbeing support, counselling, and community resilience initiatives.

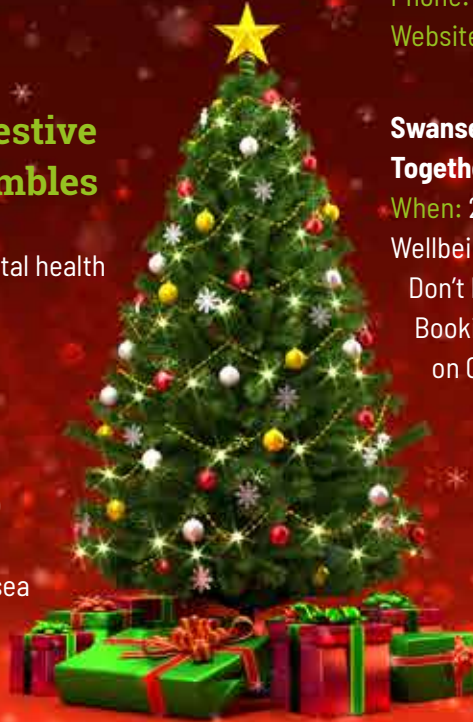
Phone: 03301 336510

Website: jaclewisfoundation.co.uk

Faith in Families (Swansea & Mumbles)

Supporting children and families living in poverty, crisis, and trauma across Swansea Bay. Their Compassionate Christmas campaign ensures children wake up to gifts and festive joy.

Phone: 01792 653344 **Website:** faithinfamilies.wales



Crisis Skylight South Wales (Swansea)

Providing warmth, healthcare, food, and companionship for people experiencing homelessness throughout December.

Phone: 0300 636 1967 **Website:** crisis.org.uk

Age Cymru West Glamorgan (Swansea)

Supporting older people to live independently and age well. Services include advice, home support, dementia care, and festive companionship initiatives.

Phone: 01792 648866

Website: ageuk.org.uk/cymru/west-glamorgan

Swansea Wellbeing Centre CIC Big Xmas Day Get Together

When: 25th Dec **Time:** 2-5pm **Where:** Swansea Wellbeing Centre, Walter's Road, Swansea, SA1 5PQ,

Don't be on your own this Christmas!

Booking is essential, please contact Lucy on 07833 232272.

**From all of us at
Mumbles Community
Council, we wish you
a safe, joyful, and
heartwarming festive
season, and a prosperous
New Year.**