

News Letter

This news letter is an introduction to your
Community Council and the
Community Councillors who manage it

We hope to make this a bi-annual publication
to keep everyone in the area informed about what
we are doing and of any events planned for the future

This first issue is to let you know the names of your
Community Councillors and a little bit about them and
the aspirations they have for you and the community

Meetings of the Council are held on
the second Friday of every month in
the Channel View Community Hall at 5.30pm
Everybody is welcome to attend these meetings.
We look forward to seeing you and you can let us know
what you would like to be happening in your area



RISCA EAST
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

My name is Philippa Leonard

I am 61 and I have lived in Ty Sign all my life. I have experience working in Housing, Homelessness & Social Services for 10 years previous before becoming a Community Councillor, I am currently Cabinet Member for Planning & Public Protection with the Local Authority. I am a L.A. governor of Risca Comprehensive and Ty Sign Primary and the Chairperson of Channel View Community Centre. I am also a Trustee and volunteer for Covid Volunteers Wales. I am dedicated and have served my community in all the above roles for the last 12 years. As a Community Councillor I sit on the Risca East Community Council & as a County Councillor I hold fortnightly surgeries with my fellow Councillors, taking on board any local or personal issues and helping in the best way I can using the connections I have in the local authority. I dearly hope to continue to keep serving my community in any capacity for as long as I can

I'm Brandon Ham, I'm 29 years old and have been a Community Councillor for the Ty Sign ward since May 2022. I have lived here since I was just a few months old, so this area means a lot to me. Being a Councillor in Risca East has been such an honour and I enjoy speaking to residents about how we can make our community a better place for all who choose to call it home. Over the last year, I've been involved in organising lots of events including our Outdoor Cinema, which went down a storm despite the rain! I love creating experiences for young and old, giving our residents something to look forward to. Outside of the council I work in education where I'm passionate about breaking down barriers to entry and helping young people be the best versions of themselves. If you ever have something you'd like to talk to me about, don't hesitate to get in touch. I'd love to see what we can do

Hi all, my name is Roger Smith

I was born in Ynysddu 72 years ago. After meeting a Risca girl and getting married we moved to Elm Drive, Ty Sign, Risca where we still live. I worked for Ishwyn BC as a refuse collector until I injured my neck in a fall which meant I had to finish. After a few years out of work I started working in the building industry all around Wales. In 2013 I gained my S-I-A Security Licence. I then worked in the security industry until I retired in 2017. After my retirement I was asked if I would like to sit in on a community council meeting, which I did. I am now a Risca East Community Councillor

Hello fellow residents of Risca East.
My name is Chris Thomas and I have been a resident of Ty Sign since 1984.
I am a member of the Community Council
and am proud to say I have held this post for 6 years.
The council exists to give monetary support to groups in our area.
The funds available can be applied for by applying to the council.
My particular aim is to improve the Ty Sign Community Park (sports field).
We have already made some improvements and have plans for more.
None of us have monetary gain and our time is given free
with the aim to supporting local groups (we are also non-political)
Our Christmas Fayre on 30th November, with lights switch on is now being planned.
Hope you all had a good summer, Regards *Chris Thomas*

Hi, my name is Nigel George.
I was elected as a Caerphilly Borough Councillor in May 2012
and helped establish the Risca East Community Council from its formation in 2013.
I currently have the honour of being Chairman. I have lived in Risca East since the early 60's
and have always promoted and championed Risca East's cause locally and at Borough level.
I am passionate about the area and as a Community Councillor
I have been provided with a unique insight into the problems and challenges
faced regularly by our community.
Being a Community Councillor is a very rewarding and sometimes challenging experience.
I urge anyone who feels strongly about our community to become involved through our
Council Meetings, which are held on the 2nd Friday of the month at 5.50pm in
the Channel View Community Centre

Hi all, I am Zoe Davies
I have been with RECC for 9 years in 2024.
I have been a qualified Art & History teacher for the last 15 years, as well as other commitments
My main interest in the community came from my late father (David Davies) who was
also a Community Councillor. He helped pave the way for me and my future.
The biggest project I have accomplished for the community so far has been the
completion of the skate park on the Risca East Estate.
I have always lived on the estate myself and now live here with my husband.
I love all our green space and pride myself on taking advantage of walking
around the spaces we have as much as possible

I am serving as a local business person in Ty Sign and Risca area since 2012.
I feel that I need to get involved in the local Community Council. I believe that getting involved
in the Community Council will give me a better understanding of the needs
of the community. This is something I always thought to give back to our
community as per my experiences & knowledge.
It is my belief I could make a positive impact on people and the community
as a member of the Community Council
Kind regards Vim Goranya

Hi everyone. My name is Arianna Leonard and I have lived in Ty Sign, Risca my whole life.
I got involved with Risca East Community Council when it originated in 2012
and have been a councillor ever since. I have always enjoyed working with our community
and being able to help with local issues and projects in Risca East. I have helped plan
and run many different events, concerts and parties over the years and love getting
stuck into something that will benefit our local area.
Being part of the Community Council gave me such a passion for our
local community that I am now also a County Councillor for Risca East too.
I'm also a teacher and a mother of two young children, both of whom keep
me busy and on my toes!
If you ever want to see what we do as a Community Council or would
like to volunteer at one of our events, please pop along to one of our
meetings and see what we do, we would love to meet you!

Hello everyone.
My name is Bernadette Martin and I am one of the Community Councillors
for Risca East, Trenewydd ward.
I was born and bred in Risca, as were my parents and grandparents. I lived in Pontymister
from birth until, together with my husband, moved to Cotswold Way, Trenewydd Parc.
This was 23 years ago. Little strange I guess moving from the flat to the side of the mountain,
beautiful views though. After retirement I felt that I would like to give something back
to the community. After research I decided I would like to join the Community Council.
I have been a Councillor for over 2 years. I feel that in a modest way I am
helping our community.
Hope you think so too!

