## **Caerwent Community Council**

We hope that you had a good Christmas and New Year. Let's hope that 2009 turns out to be more hopeful than 2008 has been.

We welcomed a new member of the Council in December, Peter Kidger, our new Councillor for the Caerwent ward. Thank you to those who expressed interest in the position.

On to other matters, and Merton Green in Caerwent continues to hold our attention. Various meetings are about to be held with the Developer and Welsh Water over the sewage problem in the area. We continue to make representations to ensure that at any opportunity that might present itself to improve the development or any aspect of it, our voice is heard.

We are being warned about theft again, this time - of oil. Please be vigilant. There are also reports of people out hunting in the area of the MOD base. Please take care.

Residents of Dinham Road should get relief from the traffic entering and leaving the base. The MOD have assured us that the west gate will increasingly be in use from now on. We will try to ensure this happens.

Thank you to those who responded to the request for interested persons regarding allotments. We had enough requests for us to put up a case for such a provision. Officers at MCC are now looking at what land could be made available.

After some persistence it seems that we should soon have a meeting with the Environment Agency regarding the flooding of the St Brides Road. There are sewage problems there too. as well as the occasions when the stream overflows. We will let you know how we get on.

Have you tried out the new bench at Crick yet? The old one was unsafe and too low. We hope that the new one will be of use to those of you who walk the footpath.

There has been concern raised over the condition of Gray Hill. Despite work on the bracken over the last few years which was beginning to show results, the loss of funding from the Countryside Commission for Wales has meant that the bracken has re-established itself and the walking routes are becoming very difficult to navigate. We are looking at ways of improving the situation which, hopefully will keep the footpath open.

Phil Murphy Chairman

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