

CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

We hope you enjoyed your Easter especially if you managed a break. Life goes on and, at last some progress. At the time of writing, the work on Shirefield Lane was getting underway and, by the time of publication of the newsletter, the public exhibition of the A48 and associated works in and around Caerwent will have taken place.

There have been some concerns raised regarding parking issues and an access problem on the Merton Green site. We have had a meeting with MCC Planning and representatives of the Developer with a view to resolving these problems. The meeting established some potential remedies for the problems and work was to be done on the deliverability of the proposals.

The purchase, for the community of the “Old Gym” in Lawrence Crescent is progressing with the Area Committee of the Mor Hafren area (South Monmouthshire) agreeing to allocate funds out of the community monies to be paid by Barratts in due course. The present situation is that a condition survey is being carried out to establish how much needs to be allocated to enable any necessary work to be carried out in due course. Many residents will be aware that this building houses the Youth Club and many other local groups as well as being a venue for dog shows and training, model clubs, sports teams etc. It provides a venue for activities for which the Village Hall is unsuitable, releasing that venue for more appropriate uses.

Gwent Police have strengthened their staffing in Chepstow and, together with new vehicle provisions are confident of faster response times than we have been used to in our area. We are also assured that there are no plans for Police station closures and that the possible provision of mobile Police stations for rural areas is becoming a reality. We welcome these moves especially in view of the increased criminal activity in the area of late.

There is still, quite understandably, concern over the sewage problems in the Eastgate area. The position is still as previously reported in this newsletter. Welsh Water will shortly replace the damaged pipe which crosses the field. They are also going to increase storage and pumping capacity in association with Barratts to ensure that the Merton Green development does not have a detrimental impact on Caerwent's sewage problems. We are assured by the Engineers at Welsh Water that the work that they are about to carry out will solve the present and future problems in the village. The proposals have also been looked at by the Environment Agency who are not taking action because of the work to be carried out there. It is to be hoped that the Engineers are right and that we soon see an end to these problems. If not the Environment Agency will take enforcement action.

We are looking, together with MCC Street Lighting, at extra provision in Crick. Do you have any views on this? If so, please convey your comments to the Clerk.

Phil Murphy
Chairman

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