

CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

We are pleased to report that visits to this Council by the Police have re-commenced following representations to the Chief Constable. It is to be hoped that these will be a regular feature of our meetings from now on. It is most important that residents have a regular opportunity of discussing matters with the Police and that we, as a Council, are updated so that we can pass on to everyone any matters that the area needs to be aware of.

It was reported that crime was down 45% in the past year and that there was a detection rate of 32.5%, which by national standards is quite high. The Police have promised to keep an eye on the Village Hall car park, especially in the evenings to discourage inappropriate activity. Could residents who live nearby please let us know if previous activities re-commence.

The Highways Engineers are getting their traffic impact survey under way in relation to Caerwent and the surrounding area. Some of you might have noticed some rubber strips attached to the boxes at the roadside which are counting traffic movements in readiness. We will report back as soon as we get further information.

Can we appeal to dog owners again to clear up after their dogs. The walking season will be upon us soon (for those who don't venture out that much in Winter) and we are already getting complaints regarding fouling in the area. There are bins available at the wall in Caerwent and where there are no bins we would be grateful if any mess could be responsibly disposed of.

We have complained to Melin Housing about drug related problems that have occurred on the new development. They were not aware of these but have assured us that any such problems will be dealt with very promptly. However, we can only deal with problems if we are informed and therefore urge residents to let us know straight away of any problems, whatever they are.

It is hoped that at least one of the play areas at Merton Green will be released to residents, probably at the eastern end of the development, sooner than expected. We anticipate that this will be in June, and will keep pressure on to try to ensure that this happens. This will obviously make it safer for children who are restricted at present as to where they can play. The Queen's Jubilee is fast approaching and we are aware that

there are several plans being formulated at present to mark the occasion. We have decided to try where possible to give some financial support to these schemes. If you are planning anything please let us know and we will assess the amount of support that we can give.

There have been instances of vehicles being parked adjacent to the War Memorial and although there are no yellow lines in place, there is a problem over visibility. We would be grateful if drivers could find alternative parking.

Queries have been raised about the possibility of a bus stop near Highfield in Caerwent. Whilst this is probably unlikely due to financial constraints, the possibility of making the number 73 bus a hail and ride service so that residents have less distance to walk is being looked into. We have also contacted MCC regarding the re-instating of the number 62 bus through the Merton Green area and this is also under active review.

Philip Murphy
CHAIRMAN