

## **Caerwent Community Council** **Chairman's Report June 2015**

With improved weather many residents and visitors will be out and about enjoying the pleasures of our Village and surrounding areas.

You will be interested to note a recent announcement by MCC regarding Caerwent House in the centre of the village.

*"The County Council is in discussion with a Welsh-based Building Preservation Trust with a view to entering into a Back to Back agreement to enable completion of the Compulsory Purchase that has been agreed by Welsh Government. We have regular meetings with the Trust to progress this. We have commissioned a Valuation and are meeting the valuer this month to discuss their assessment. In the meantime we are reviewing the works needed for making the shell of the building safe, wind and water-tight and in the first instance have commissioned temporary protection to the roof to prevent the building's condition deteriorating too much further. A bespoke tarpaulin has been manufactured and this work will be completed as soon as we have carried out a further bat survey. Monmouthshire County Council remains committed to rescuing this important and very prominent listed building and is confident that its historic character is capable of repair and reuse."*

The Playing Fields Committee have almost completed their Jubilee trail and the Community Council are happy to announce that they are donating 4 picnic benches and 3 waste bins as part of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. Fitness equipment will be installed to supplement the track around the field and with facilities for picnics and children's play areas the area will hopefully be used residents and visitors.

Discussions have commenced regarding the transfer of the Village Hall from MCC to the Community Council/Playing Fields Committee. The process will not be quick but both parties are committed to ensure this village amenity remains available to community residents for years to come.

For the second year running the Community Council has agreed to work with Rogiet Primary and Shirenewton Primary Schools to complete a literary competition. The council will provide prizes for winners in various age groups who have been given the topic "Living in Monmouthshire". The competition will take place in the autumn.

Following some complaints recently regarding litter in the area the council asked for advice from 'Keep Wales Tidy'. Their remit is to help community groups/volunteers to look after their local area. On the litter front they could sign up individuals as Litter Champions and give them equipment, guidance, and insurance cover to work independently on their patch. They could facilitate a group litter pick session with a group of our volunteers, providing equipment, risk assessment and guidance. Ideally this would be with a view to some kind of regular thing going forward. They could then help with options like setting up a group that could apply for some funds for

further equipment and insurance. If you are interested in getting involved please contact the clerk

Planning applications, which have come before the Community Council at our June meeting.

**Rockfield Farm, Undy Development Site**

Council noted.

**2015/00663 Northgate House, A48, Caerwent**

Discharge of Condition 5 (Archaeological Watching Brief) from planning consent 2012/00578

Council noted.

Regards

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Community Council Chair

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