

CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Residents of the Merton Green area were in attendance at the March meeting of the Council to seek clarification on the events surrounding the commencement of the development. They had concerns about the felling of trees that were subject to Tree Preservation Orders and about the diversion of traffic to Llanfair Road and the dangers associated with that junction.

The position was that under the terms of the Planning permission granted by M.C.C. some of the TPOs were to be removed. Three days after the trees were cut down the TPOs had been removed. It was the fact that trees that were still subject to TPOs had not been removed that lead M.C.C. Officers to the conclusion that the cost of taking action was not justified in the circumstances. We are aware that there are residents who do not subscribe to that point of view but that remains the position of the County Council. As regards the road junction, at the time of writing this report, the Developers were awaiting permission to carry out emergency improvements to the junction with a view to increasing safety before work commenced on the site.

We have, for some time been referring to a Public opportunity to have explained the alteration to the A48 and associated roads in and around Caerwent. This has now been arranged for **Wednesday 21 April 1.00 p.m. – 7.30 p.m. at the Caerwent Community Centre, Lawrence Crescent, Caerwent.** Please watch for notices.

On the matter of Highways, efforts are still being made to try to ensure that the work scheduled for 2010/11 in Shirefield Lane goes ahead without delay. We will keep the pressure on.

The better weather and the value of scrap has led to a rise in burglaries especially in the Llanfair Discoed area. Residents are urged to be vigilant and to keep garages and outbuildings as secure as possible. There is also a warning about leaving Satellite Navigation Units and Laptops in cars. Fuel, both domestic and in vehicles, is again very attractive to thieves, so be warned.

The matter of Public participation at Community Council meetings has been raised and, following a discussion, it is requested that should any resident have a matter that they wish to raise they should take it up with their Community Councillor rather than leaving it until the next Council meeting. This will have the benefit of answers being provided more quickly, where that is possible, and action being carried out earlier where appropriate. An up-to-date list of contact details follows this piece. All of this is intended to be of benefit to residents and does not prevent anyone from taking advantage of the 15 minute period at the start of each meeting, however unless there is obvious merit in an extension of the period, the business of the meeting will commence at 7.15 p.m.

The update, as we understand it, regarding the sewage leak in the field at Eastgate in Caerwent, is that design work is progressing although a little behind. Engineers are confident of catching up and we expect the work to be carried out over the Summer.

Residents of Crick will soon have more flowers to look at. Permission has been granted to plant this Spring in the village.

Phil Murphy – Chairman