

CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

On 1st April this Council took over ownership of the public toilets in Caerwent. Residents will recall that, some time ago we asked in this newsletter if anyone had any objection to this step. There was a letter expressing concerns but otherwise there was no response. Our reasons for taking this step were to retain the facility especially in a tourist area. The toilets were locked for a period to enable some work to be carried out and suffered damage due to a break in. However, by the time this Newsletter is published we hope that all will be back to normal.

On the subject of tourism, there has been a major study carried out by MCC into further promoting attractions around the County. We have a hidden treasure trove in this area with the Roman area, the Hill Fort at Llanmelin, the prospect of properly planned walks, bridle paths with the creation of wildlife areas, improved signage and the new look Tourist Information Centres that are being set up. We hope that the local economy can be promoted.

Coming back down to earth, we have suffered another round of break-ins. The local police have available a supply of audible shed alarms at £10 each which we strongly recommend residents use to protect their property.

We now have regular meetings with the Site Manager of the Merton Green development. If anyone has any concerns regarding aspects of this development as it progresses can they please make them known to us so we can address the matters as they arise.

Progress is being made regarding the adoption of Cwrt Morgan in Caerwent with Highways. We will keep an eye on progress to keep momentum up.

There have been problems lately with rubbish falling out of Viridor waste lorries. We are now assured that regulations are in place to prevent any more occurrences. We would be grateful to hear if any breach of these new regulations is observed.

Dog waste is still a problem. Now that locations have been determined for the bins at the Roman wall, we would hope that they will be properly used. We still however have the problem of someone leaving bags of dog waste in the Llanfair Discoed area. Would the person doing this please take them home and dispose of them there.

Llanfair Discoed has entered the "Best Kept Village" competition again this year. Please can everyone help to keep the area tidy. The villagers are making a big effort to win this year and we wish them every success.

Residents in Crick have responded to a survey regarding additional street lighting in the area. We have passed the results and petitions to the MCC

Street Lighting Manager and will endeavour to ensure there is progress as the overwhelming majority of responses were in favour of better provision.

However, street lighting may come under scrutiny soon. As with all other Local Authorities, the “Green Agenda” and the need to save money come together with this subject. We would be interested to hear views on the following which we will feed into any consultation that is undertaken.

Possible proposals could be:

1. Partial timers to switch off lights between (for example) midnight and 5am. Exceptions being at road junctions and vulnerable areas.
2. General dimming which would keep all lights on but at lower energy consumption.
3. Installation of LED Units using 40% less power. This would be expensive and could only be achievable on a gradual basis.
4. A total combination of the above.

As nothing has been decided we would be very interested in receiving your general views and feedback on the subject.

Phil Murphy
Chairman

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