

Caerwent Community Council
Chairman's Report May 2015

This is my first newsletter report following my appointment as Chairman of the Community Council at our May meeting.

You will be pleased to learn that there is a lot going on within the Community over the next couple of months.

The Playing Fields Committee have started work on their Jubilee trail following a grant from the Lottery Fund. The facilities when completed will enable residents to use the additional facilities being provided for walking, jogging or running in a safe and secure environment. A lot of work has gone into the planning of this project and all those involved should be thanked and congratulated on the hard work and time they have devoted to achieving this. As this is the 40th anniversary of the Playing Fields Association the Community Council have agreed to assist this project by providing some requested equipment which will hopefully enhance the experience of the users of these facilities.

We would like to bring to your attention that Monmouthshire County Council who are the current owners of the Village Hall and Playing Fields are, in line with Welsh National guidelines considering applications from local communities to take over these types of facilities. The Community Council and the Playing Fields Committee are at early stages of discussions to consider a suitable application for the transfer of these local facilities. A working group will be set up, not only to discuss the application itself but how going forward the facilities will be managed with long term stability and sustainability being the prime objectives. I will keep you up to date as these discussions progress.

You may also be aware that the Community Council took on a lease for the parcel of land behind the public toilets known as the "Time Team" field. The land became available due to Monmouthshire County Council's disposal of Great House Farm. At the time the Community Council were in discussions with Caerwent Historic Trust regarding a community archaeology project and this land fitted the requirements perfectly. However these plans have had to be put on hold due to concerns from CADW. As a result of CADW restrictions placed on the land (because of the Roman remains) we are unable to use it for activities where it can be dug over in a conventional manner. We are looking for suggestions and support for local residents to utilise this prime village location. Some suggestions so far have been a community allotment using raised beds, or returning it to a wild flower meadow. All these will take time and effort which is why we would like to ask anyone who is prepared to volunteer to help in any way practically, that you get in touch. Results won't happen overnight but with support and hard work it could become a useful village amenity. It may be possible to apply for grants to progress any plans or projects that are agreed.

Finally we have listed below local planning applications, which have come before the Community Council at our May meeting.

2015/00248 Glenview Farm, Ysgubor Kemeys Road, Llanfair Discoed

Demolish Dormer Bungalow and Erect New Contemporary Single Storey House

This Council recommends Refusal

Due to contemporary design recommend that this goes to full Committee.

Out of keeping with surrounding area.

2015/00545 Old Gunters Barn, Caerwent

Fitting of Metal Gate into Existing Vehicular Access

This Council recommends Approval

Council noted Appeal Dismissed by Planning Inspector re

2014/00892 Installation of Two Electrically Operated Gates, Old Gunters Barn, Caerwent.

Regards

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Community Council Chair

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