

CHAIR'S REPORT - MAY 2016

This is my first newsletter since my appointment as Chairperson of Caerwent Community Council at our last Council meeting. As a brief introduction I joined the Community Council 3 ½ years ago. I have lived in the village of Caerwent for the last four years and now can't imagine living anywhere else. I have a full time job and am mum to two young children so life is a little hectic most of the time which I'm sure most of you can relate to. I am absolutely delighted to have been appointed as Chairperson and will be working with the other Community Councillors over the next year to serve Caerwent and the neighbouring villages.

In last month's newsletter, Kevin mentioned that we are looking into the provision of a defibrillator in Caerwent. This is progressing well and we are continuing to work with the Chepstow Lions to install a defibrillator. As the Coach and Horses is a central point in the village, Kate and Nick have kindly agreed that the defibrillator could be located there. The British Lions have now submitted the grant application for our defibrillator, so I am hoping that we have some positive news shortly. Once the grant has been agreed residents will be offered training, although it is not necessary to have training to operate the defibrillator as it "speaks" instructions once activated. We would still like to pursue having a number of "Community First Responders" who would be trained to give medical assistance until the emergency services arrived. If you would be interested in being trained as a First Responder, please email the Clerk on the email address below.

For anyone that has been at the Village Hall recently you will have noticed that the extension and renovations are progressing at pace. The building works, which are now well underway, will be a great asset to the community and I am certain will be well used. I recently popped into the Village Hall for the first family fun night where lots of people were enjoying soaking up the first of the summer sun. Long may it continue!

The Community Council has received a complaint from Cadw regarding dog fouling around the Roman Wall. There are a total of nine dog litter bins that the CCC pays to have emptied regularly across Caerwent and neighbouring villages. Two of these are in the vicinity of the Roman Wall (one at either end). The Roman wall is one of only a few locations where Cadw permits dogs and this was granted as an exception by Cadw for Caerwent. To avoid Cadw revoking access for dogs, can I ask that all residents remain vigilant and ensure any dog litter is disposed of in the bins provided.

As I mentioned earlier, I am a relatively new Community Councilor and I will confess that until I joined the Council I had very little knowledge (or absolutely none) about what the Community Council do. If you would like to find out a little bit more about what we do and the topics that are discussed in our monthly meetings, why not pop along? At the start of each meeting there is 15 minutes of public participation where you get to have your say. It's your time to raise any concerns or voice your opinion about what you would like to see in our area. Please feel free to come along and meet us and have your say. The meetings are held at the Burton Homes complex, just off the crossroads in Caerwent, on the second Thursday of every month at 7.00 p.m. (except August when there is no meeting). We would love to see you!

We considered the following planning applications this month:

2015/01534 The Glen, St Brides Netherwent

Discharge of condition 3 (cladding sample and colour sample)
Council noted

2016/00365 Bylanes, Llanfair Discoed

Rear side single storey extension. Increase size of dormer and alter external materials and windows
This Council recommends Approval

2016/00301 Five Lanes Farm, Caerwent

Proposed conversion of redundant agricultural building (Barn 4) into residential use

This Council recommends Approval

Some local concerns regarding access safety and further increase in traffic. Also some concerns over the use of the “digester system” for waste as this planned system will eventually service three properties. Query if there are any problems that will affect the local aquifers and as the water table is already high in this valley is this of any consequence.

Regards

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Community Council Chair

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