

CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Now that the various Highways works associated with the Merton Green development are taking place we need to get a fresh perspective over the proposal to close School Lane in Caerwent.

Some time ago when the Planning permission was going through concern was expressed, especially by residents from the heart of Caerwent, that there was a likelihood of vehicles coming out of the Llanvair Road end of the development and heading to Caldicot by using School Lane. It was felt that this would put an increased load on that lane and further pressure on the main street in the centre of the village where it is least able to cope with any such increase. Discussions with residents of School Lane at the time indicated that there was a general consensus that, if School Lane was closed off at the A48 (as had happened opposite Dinham Road many years ago), then the frequent accidents at the entrance to it would be prevented and traffic would be discouraged from travelling to Caldicot that way. Highways Engineers considered the matter and formed the conclusion, especially in view of the traffic calming at the entrance to Caldicot, that traffic was more likely to use other routes.

Following on from the above a public exhibition of the proposals was held in April attended by many, with a view to explaining what was happening with the A48 and what was proposed for School Lane. As part of the consultation on the matter we have heard from some residents that they are opposed to such a closure and therefore we invite anyone who has a view to let us know. We will undertake to ensure that all responses are relayed to Highways so that full consideration can be taken of these views.

For those who were unable to get to the Highways exhibition we list below the works on the A48 and its North side. The main difference will be:-

1. Improved entrance – Llanvair Road
2. A central reservation along the 30mph area with a gated (ornamental) entrance to give a visible sign of a built up area.
3. Pedestrian crossings, one near School Lane and one by Dinham Road.
4. Dinham Road will have a tighter entrance and be narrowed to discourage speed and inappropriate vehicles.
5. Street Lighting.

On other matters, the local proposal put forward by some residents in Crick is for additional street lighting for safety purposes and to try to create the conditions for a further reduction in the speed limit. As with the above, we have received some expressions of opposition to these proposals. What are your views please?

Regrettably burglaries still persist in the area. Please be vigilant and lock your doors and put secure locks on sheds. A good tip is not to leave keys in locks or visible.

The Ryder Cup will soon be with us and, to that end, a presentation anticipating the affect on the area will take place on **Friday 18th June at 7.30 p.m. in Caerwent Village Hall.**

Monmouthshire Housing have installed hard standings in St Tathan's Place with a view to easing parking problems there. Some problems have arisen and as with the previous items we would appreciate being informed of concerns.

Phil Murphy
Chairman

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