

## **CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Caerwent now has celebrity status since “Captain America” was filmed in the MoD base. This follows on from “Doctor Who” and “Torchwood”. However, there was a lot of noise and bright lights which were, on the whole, accepted by local residents. One problem that did arise was that the vehicle movements, especially at night near the perimeter fence caused a nuisance to residents of the flats with the noise of the cattle grid being driven over. The MoD have now re-routed vehicles at night as a matter of routine so that should be a thing of the past.

The Producers have offered to make a donation, as yet unspecified, to the Community Council for the benefit of the community. We are pleased to hear this and will let you know what we get and what we decide to do with it. We should stress here that the arrangements for filming such events are made with the MoD and not this Council.

At the time of writing, the Public Enquiry into the application for Village Green Status for the Merton Green area is being heard. We all look forward to the result with interest.

The Police report to November’s meeting concerned thefts from sheds and the advice that battery operated alarms are available - perhaps residents might consider some such deterrent. There was also the matter of hypodermic needles found in the Crick bus stop and at Five Lanes. Please be vigilant about this to avoid accidents especially with children.

Residents of Crick who are wondering how the village Enhancement Scheme is getting on will be interested in an approach to the MoD to see if land can be utilized, possibly for allotments. We will keep you informed as negotiations progress.

It has been agreed that this Council will take over the running of the toilets in Caerwent for a 12 month trial from next April. Our request for residents views in a recent newsletter only brought one response. From that we have concluded that residents are content for us to undertake this move and that the cost be spread equally amongst all Council Tax payers in the ward. We will be looking at ways to reduce costs in relation to the toilets and possibly generate income from advertising internally. We will challenge the rates etc and look to the possibilities of getting the cleaning provided locally.

Last year we had adverse comments about the Christmas tree lights in Caerwent. This year we have bought a new set of lights (1000 white LED’s). This should look so much better and we hope those that commented last year will be pleased with the results.

It was very pleasing to see a larger than usual turnout at the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial in Caerwent. The attendance has been increasing gradually for several years. It was particularly good to see so many young people. Thank you all for your support.

Phil Murphy  
Chairman