

CAERWENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

“Woops”, the Christmas tree lights seem to have got a number of residents hot under the collar. The history of the present lighting is that it was purchased in an attempt to prevent theft and vandalism which had occurred with the old lights. However, the criticisms of the show this time have been noted and we intend to invest in some new, more appropriate lights for next Christmas. A resident has offered to purchase a new set and that is very generous. Perhaps it would be better to open any sponsorship up to a firm or association, with a sign of acknowledgement put up – what do you think?

There was some confusion this month over the amount of time allocated at Council meetings to the Public for open participation. The constitution and that of virtually all committees in the County states that there should be 15 minutes allocated at the commencement of each meeting. After that the Public are unable to participate. However the Chairman, at his or her discretion can vary that time to accommodate the number of people who wish to address the meeting. Of late the practice of “opening up” the public period had got out of hand and there was little time left for other business. As a consequence the Public participation time will be more strictly controlled. However, should it be necessary to devote extra time this will be considered as it arises. We hope that this makes the position clear.

There have been queries lately about just what and how much can be taken to the local tip. In view of the fact that MCC’s new collection procedures have just been introduced to the Severnside area, we feel that a definitive Statement should be made – this will be reproduced at the end of the Newsletter.

There appears to be progress at last to remedy the sewage problem which continues to occur in “Bennetts Field” in the Eastgate area of Caerwent. Welsh Water has scheduled the work to begin in April and we will try to ensure this timescale does not slip.

We soon hope to be able to let those interested, know the availability of allotments. We had intended to give some news this month but unfortunately the information was not to hand.

Obviously the deterioration of the roads during the cold spell has caused concern, not least to the residents who signed a petition recently about the delay in resurfacing the Shirefield Lane. This is one of the worst lanes in the area and it should be done earlier than the programme says. However, with tighter and tighter budgets MCC have to stretch the maintenance money on a priority basis. There are some 970 miles of road in the County and everyone would like their area completed as soon as possible. We will do all we can to speed up this particular job as it is, in our opinion, an urgent case.

Phil Murphy, Chairman

Mrs L McKeon, Clerk to the Council, Caerwent Community Council, Mayfield, Pill Row, Caldicot, Monmouthshire, NP26 5JD.

Tel: 01291 424802 Email: Caerwentcouncil@aol.com Website: www.caerwentcom.com