

County Councillor Frances Taylor

The past six months have been a very steep learning curve. It is little surprise that traditionally so many County Councillors are retired, as trying to balance work, Council commitments and looking after my five-year-old son has kept me very busy indeed.

As there are some new Community Councillors I thought it might be worth including in this report some of the key issues raised by residents when I was canvassing -;

- The need for improved and enhanced community facilities, which capitalise on the provision we already have and give young people more diverse opportunities
- To preserve the character of the area and enhance community spirit
- To protect our open spaces and guard against development which is not sensitive to the existing community
- Concerns over the flooding and the limitations in Welsh Water's waste and water infrastructure
- Magor Square and issues of traffic/parking management and pedestrian safety

Since May I have been trying to develop a clear understanding of the position of all the different organisations in relation to these issues and many others relevant to our local area.

In September /October I have spent my time

- Meeting with Magor Church in Wales Primary and the Community Council and Council officers to encourage as much discussion as possible so that the future of the school playing field can be resolved.
- Working with the Community Council and Council officers to find solutions, which will alleviate the parking/traffic issues in the Square, improve pedestrian safety and protect our unique Cenotaph.
- Talking to residents interested in securing a railway stop at Magor/Undy and canvassing support from responsible councillors and officers.
- Organising meetings with residents, Welsh Water and the Council's environmental health team to resolve local issues of flooding/odour.
- Supporting local organisations to successfully secure grant funding from Severnside Area Committee.
- Working with Council officers, Community Council and MUSLA to progress appropriate improvements to our community facilities.
- Dealing successfully with varied casework for residents including issues associated with Monmouthshire Housing, the maintenance of highway verges, removal and pollarding of dangerous trees, planning matters and environmental health issues. I am also chasing up issues which have not been resolved successfully.
- Working with other councillors from all parties to raise concerns and deal with the issues people care about.
- Meeting with Council officers and members regarding the need for a cyclepath/footpath between undy and Rogiet.
- It is also worth noting that the LDP focussed changes will be discussed at full Council on 22nd November. Should the council wish to raise questions and attend there is guidance available on submission times for questions available from Peter Evans in democratic services.

The last meeting of Gwent Police Authority will be on the 21st November and after the election of the Police and Crime Commissioner on November 15th; I will be a member of the Police and Crime Panel. The Police and Crime Panel are responsible for supporting and scrutinising the performance of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent.

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