

Together for Caerleon with Labour

Autumn 2017



Traffic, education & health



The University of South Wales has now submitted its application to build new housing on the Campus site and - as promised - our councillors Gail Giles and Jason Hughes organised a public meeting in the Town Hall. We continue to oppose the project because of the potentially harmful and disruptive effects caused by extra traffic in the town.

Llanfrechfa Hospital



Meanwhile after pressure from Councillor Gail Giles and former Councillor Cliff Suller, we have now been assured that no traffic involved in the present construction of the new £350m hospital at Llanfrechfa will be allowed to go through Caerleon. Torfaen Council have told Newport City Council that all traffic involved in the work will approach the site using alternative routes.



Councillor Giles said:
"I'm delighted about these assurances, because any extra traffic on an already overburdened town will be far too much."

Lodge Hill Primary School

Thanks to a successful planning application the new school building will provide for all the pupils who are presently separated over two sites and will bring immense benefits in the long term.



Councillor Gail Giles was unable to attend the planning meeting because of her role as cabinet member for education and skills.



Councillor Jason Hughes, who did attend the planning meeting, has outlined his priorities for the development of the school:

- "I fully support this application for the provision of a new school. It will provide an excellent, modern environment for our children to learn in.
- The retention of the toddler and junior play areas, as well as the sports facilities, is also welcome.
- "I have requested that an additional crossing should be provided on Lodge Road at the junction with Lodge Hill, to enable a 'safe route to school' for pupils walking to school from Home Farm, Lodge Road and the centre of Caerleon. This will also encourage walking to school.
- "The monitoring of traffic and parking will be required to ensure pedestrian safety and the avoidance of inconvenience for residents."

Together for our community

Caerleon Comprehensive



At the May council election we promised to press the Welsh Government for funding to help improve Caerleon Comprehensive School. We are pleased to say that Newport City Council is now making a bid which could help to transform the school.

Newport Council are putting forward proposals for £70 million worth of improvements to schools across the city, including Caerleon Comprehensive. The council are applying to the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools programme. If successful it would mean that the Welsh Government would fund 50% of the work.

The aim of the programme is to reduce the number of schools and colleges in poor condition and ensure that Wales has the right size schools and colleges in the right locations. Under the programme, local authorities are invited to bid for funds to carry out such works in their area.

The schools included in the proposal have been selected in line with the council's strategic aims and the priorities of the programme. Those taking priority have been selected through criteria based on condition, the number of school places available in the area and ways in which we can make best use of current assets.

For secondary schools, the improvements will include the replacement of demountable buildings and remodelling to ensure there are sufficient pupil places.

Home Farm Play Scheme



Twenty thousand pounds has been allocated by NCC to start replacing play equipment. Newport Council removed the playground equipment at Home Farm last year, following recommendations that it no longer met safety standards, thus posing a serious risk to users and to the council in terms of liability.

Despite earlier lobbying by Councillor Gail Giles, NCC at that time were unable to provide redevelopment funds. So Councillor Giles and Jason Hughes (now also a Caerleon ward councillor) contacted officials in September 2016 to help them set up a community group to seek alternative grant aid for new equipment. Subsequently the new community group, comprising local residents met on the 13th July 2017 (attended by Cllr Hughes) and a comprehensive consultation document was presented to the council.

The Council now say that Section 106 funding amounting to £20k (provided by local private developers) can be used to reinstate the play equipment. And the council will still continue to work with local residents to identify additional funding. Councillor Hughes will continue to liaise with the Community Group.

A thank you message !



Thank you from your three Labour candidates in the May elections to all of you who helped and supported us. We didn't win all three seats in Caerleon but we had the highest share of the vote.

We will continue to :

- oppose unwanted development and traffic
- campaign for better education in the town
- find ways of improving play and leisure services

But we have to remind everybody that Newport Council, like councils all over the UK, faces massive cuts in central funding. We cannot spend money we don't have.

Want to get in touch?

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