

Our last report in October noted a deal of uncertainty about the situation of the Team in the County Council's thinking for the future. We do not seem to be much further forward with this, and as a result we have been "pressing on regardless" with things that we can do.

- 1. We have been developing a five year plan for the North Monmouthshire area in close cooperation with the Town Council who are obliged by the Welsh Government to produce a plan themselves. That plan is now quite well advanced, and we need to identify which agency is responsible for which projects and to try to get them moving. We are determined that the plan needs to be activated and not simply left on the shelf, as has happened to a number of previous plans. In the course of its development we held a public consultation session in the Methodist Chapel Hall before Christmas and the results of that are being fed into the process.
- 2. We are disappointed that no progress has been seen on the development of the Abergavenny Hub. We had hoped that this might have been in the discussion phase by now so that the final plans are informed by public views.
- 3. The WiFi Project has progressed, with a number of delays and technical hitches. The present position is that it is not quite complete.
- 4. We are progressing a funding bid for the Parks and Castle Meadows. A small working group is meeting to develop this, by dividing up the items identified to be done into categories which would be capital or maintenance, and by looking for different sources of funding for each category. A meeting has been arranged with MCC Officers to sort out the administrative arrangements that need to be in place to allow a bid to proceed.
- 5. Finally, we are reviewing our objectives for the coming year to relate to the 5 year plan and what is realistic for us to achieve without any direct funding.

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