

ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023

TOWN CLERK'S UPDATE

1. ACTIVE TRAVEL PLANS, CASTLE MEADOWS

Received from Nick Tulp, Active Travel Officer:

We would like to provide you with a brief update on the progress of the trial entrance of Castle Meadows, incorporating a gate and cattle grid.

The Active Travel project across the Meadows is progressing through planning at present and this trial entrance is being installed under permitted development rights.

The trial entrance has been selected as the entrance below the Castle, due to its location and being on the National Cycle Network.

Progress has been slower than expected, this has been due to the technical specification and fabrication of the custom grid, but we have now resolved this between the consultants and fabricators.

Contractors have been secured to install the trial, this will be local contractors Nick and Derek who are very familiar with the Meadows and will be working alongside our Countryside Team who manage the site.

The cattle grid is being delivered to the installation contractors soon, who may be storing the grid on the Meadows until work can start.

Installation will begin Mid-April and we will be placing consultation posters around the trial. Feedback will be sought and can be submitted online or via paper copies, which will be made available at the Library or One stop shop.

The trial is to run for approximately 12 months to include all weather and usage conditions (e.g. with cattle present). We will change the gate set up as necessary through the trial as seen fit or needed due to feedback, which will then hopefully proceed to an agreed design for all future entrance to Castle Meadows when the rest of the scheme is installed (if planning granted and funding secured).

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to send them through to [ActiveTravel@Monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:ActiveTravel@Monmouthshire.gov.uk) and one of the team will happily get back to you.

## 2. ABERGAVENNY IN BLOOM

RHS interviewed the Town Clerk for their April Newsletter for an article on the Water Conservation Project we would like to start by installing the water butt at Morgans Solicitors to collect water for the planters on Lion Street. Included in the article will be information on the water sensors as part of the Smart Town tech proposals. (article attached in draft).

Bus Station beds: works are underway to remove the remaining tree stumps, and plants have now been ordered for these areas. A meeting with Griffiths Construction has seen plans for remedial and improvement works to the stonework to include seating areas on the surrounds to enable people to engage with the plants and nature. These works will be part of their Community Initiatives, once plans are received by the Town Clerk these will be shared and Councillors will be asked to get involved on the days that final planting's happen to show Community Engagement in these areas.

Britain In Bloom judging has provisionally been pencilled in for Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023, 9am – 12pm. The weekend leading up to this will require all hands to the pumps, so please let the Town Clerk know if you are able to assist with a town wide tidy up in preparation for the judging. A banner signifying we are Britain In Bloom finalists 2023 has been received and photos of all groups at each location will be arranged to have uploaded to our social media sites.

FIT training will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April in the morning for the Community Groups and then afternoon for OLSM School, and this will be captured for the Abergavenny In Bloom Social Media and Portfolio Submission.

Amberol are attending a meeting to discuss planters and troughs for the town centre on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 11am, where we hope to see a couple of samples and look at various solutions to enabling a further spread of planters or troughs on streets that have previously been missed out.

## 3. SECTION 6 ENVIRONMENT ACT REPORTING

A final submission for the required Section 6 Environment Act reporting has been sent to One Voice Wales and is attached for ratification and adoption. This will need to be reviewed annually.