ABERGAVENNY TOWN COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY 31ST JULY 2024

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

EC82/24: SERVICE DELIVERY UPDATE

1. TOWN TEAM

Currently operating at reduced capacity with one on long term sick. The Team Leader is due to go on annual leave, which may leave us with just one operative covering town on foot, for one week.

Increased rubbish in all town centre and park bins has shown a definite increase in footfall since the start of the summer holidays. This increased pressure has meant bin collections are taking priority over all other jobs.

A project to improve a path at Penyfal is being programmed in to the calendar, with a temporary fix to be installed to improve the path that has been created over the years of use. Again this is dependant on staffing levels.

Issues at Rother Avenue with household rubbish and fly tipping are taking up lots of resources, so a meeting with the community engagement officer from Waste and Cleansing, and possibly the local housing association, to address how the residents are encouraged to use the new recycling bags that will be delivered in the next month or so, which will see communal rubbish areas cease, and all rubbish to collected from outside individual properties. Difficult to engage people in this area, so needs a lot of careful consideration. Town Team have now left the bags as they are all household waste.

1. TOILETS

An email has been submitted to Monmouthshire County Council to see if any decision has been made on the White Horse Lane toilet block.

There has been a meeting with Dave Jones from Public Protection and Jan Baldwin and Anthony Berrington from Support Services to look at the Boys Need Bins project that Monmouthshire County Council have agreed to in principle. We have been asked to be a pilot area, by advertising that bins are available in all disabled toilets for anyone who needs them (providing they have a radar key). Costs of specific sanitary waste bins designed to go into Mens toilets are being investigated by Monmouthshire. We are currently the only Town Council in Monmouthshire who provide sanitary waste bins in the ladies and disabled public toilets.

After issues with PHS over sharps in the waste bins in the toilets, normal service has resumed with the Deputy Principal Officer as point of contact should a PHS operative discover sharps in the bins, our Deputy can immediately go and safely dispose of these, so PHS can continue serving the bins they have come to collect.

1. DOG FOULING

There has been a sharp rise in dog fouling over recent weeks, with serious incidents in Cantref Ward, and reports on Facebook on hotspot areas. Bailey Park has seen a huge rise in incidents of families playing on the sports pitches, then getting covered in dog faeces after being on the grass.

The new Public Spaces Protection Order has now come into force, but signage won’t be going up just yet as this still needs to be procured. In the meantime, we do have more metal signs which can be put up on lampposts to encourage people to pick up after their dogs. All dog bins are being well used in their current locations. Monmouthshire County Council have additional signage if it is felt that these being installed would be useful; a request can be submitted for this.