Dear Editor,

Congratulations to the new mayor, Cllr Mair Morris, on questioning the cost effectiveness of the CCTV scheme. At last someone in the town council is willing to ask what will be gained by installing such a system.

A reduction in the number of burglaries? This is happening already. Burglaries at commercial premises are down 24% and burglaries of houses down 40% compared to last year.

A reduction in the amount of anti-social behaviour on Cardigan's streets on Friday and Saturday nights? Most unlikely. A reduction in insurance premiums for high street traders? Most likely. Contrary to the opinion of Jayne Peg of the Chamber of Trade that the people of Cardigan are disappointed, personally I am overjoyed to hear that we probably won't be having a CCTV system in Cardigan.

We are fortunate to live in the most crime-free part of Britain. For the town council to commit an annual outlay of £8,000 to monitor the streets only on a Friday and Saturday night seems a complete waste of money. It would certainly be more effective to have a policeman on the beat in the known trouble spots.

With so little money for the town council to spend surely they could make a more positive contribution to the life of the town? The money could be spent enhancing the facilities of the town either by building a skateboard park, resurfacing the town's tennis courts, supporting more activities at Theatre Mwldan, the new Heritage Centre, the Wildlife Park or the Youth Club. Isn't it about time the town council took a more positive attitude to developing opportunities for the young people of Cardigan rather than using their meagre resources to reduce our civil liberties?

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