

**Town Centre Partnership
Meeting 17 September
2010**

MINUTES

Present	Peter Atkinson (PA)	Chamber of Commerce (Temporary Chair)
	John Barham (JB)	Charter Market
	David Blake	Newbury Sound
	Malcolm Bull (MB)	Property
	Brian Burgess (BB)	Newbury Retail Association
	Una Carr	Newbury College
	Norman Fryer-Saxby (NF-S)	Bus Transport
	Patrick Griffin	Chamber of Commerce Property Group
	John Hampson (DJH)	Newbury Weekly News
	Jeremy Holden-Bell (JHB)	Newbury Society
	Jonathan Hopson (JJH)	Camp Hopson
	Dave Milsom (DM)	Thames Valley Police
	Tom Rossiter (TR)	Solicitor

In Attendance

David Appleton (DA)	West Berks Council
Nick Carter (NC)	West Berks Council
Roger Hunneman (RH)	West Berks Council
Graham Hunt (GH)	Newbury Town Council
Jane Mills (JM)	West Berks Council
Caroline Paus (CP)	Events Manager

Apologies

Pamela Bale, Jeff Beck, Steve Brind, Liz Chandler, Anthony Cox, Maurice Elliott, Ifor Sheldon, Julian Swift-Hook.

Introduction

PA explained that Liz Chandler would be taking back the chairmanship as of October, and welcomed David Blake and Jane Mills to the meeting.

Minutes

August minutes agreed to be accurate and OK for publication.

Matters Arising

Additional banner site held over to next meeting.

A sub-group of Chair / Chair of Comms Group / Comms professional will agree relevant communications required after each meeting.

Much discussion on CCTV camera in Broadway. Later agreed that TCP would be updated on provisions of new CCTV contract, as part of general publicity / training on the changes.

Parkway representation expected to be sorted for October meeting.

Much discussion on Northbrook multi-story lift alarm and the need to repair / replace it swiftly.

Police Report

DM gave an update on town centre crime, focussing on out of hours burglaries, shoplifting and Bartholomew Street South issues. TCP Safety and Security Sub-Group had met and notes circulated. A press release had been drafted and was agreed OK to dispatch.

Later in the meeting there was discussion relating to the policing of the Michaelmas Fair, and impact on residents parking.

Parkway

Latest information sheet was circulated. A topping out event is planned for October 2010.

Finance

Financial reports had been circulated in advance. Cash flow tight but OK for this year, once GCT and FGF aspects were fully bottomed out.

Finance and Strategy Sub-Group

Finance & Strategy Sub-Group are concentrating on the BID proposal. Lots of discussions on way forward, including ensuring correct stakeholders involved, clear strategy, public involvement, gauging support levels, clear benefits, impact of cutbacks, working within scope, inside / outside red-line, current statistics, solid business plan, the need for the whole TCP to be supportive and knowledgeable, WBC support.

Events and Communications

CP gave a detailed update on feedback re Arquiem and Mobile Homme – Transe Express. Positive in terms of numbers and financial benefit. Plus a report on the successful Latin American event and a detailed look forward to Christmas events – same model as last year.

It was agreed that Matt Castle would be welcomed to the group to represent the evening economy.

Comparisons made with other towns re footfall, units to let and a suggestion that some kind of good news story is needed, showing how Newbury is staying

positive in the downturn. The success and positive impact of recent events could also be mentioned.

The need to resurrect the full communications sub-group was discussed.

DA gave an update on the Cultural Olympiad initiative.

Anthony Cox was absent due to concurrent work on Destination Newbury.

Vision 2025

Not met.

Transport

GH summarised the recent TCP Accessibility, Parking and Transport Sub-Group meeting. Further discussions on on-going gas works, Bear Lane roundabout markings.

Suggestions were made to consider additional free parking provision in the run up to Christmas.

Newbury T.C.

GH reported on successful Italian Market in August, and French Market scheduled for 8/9 October. Victoria Park hydro-geological survey underway and results keenly awaited. Christmas light switch-on planning well underway and 35' tree has been purchased for the Market Place. The market enjoyed some good publicity through the departure of a long standing trader and her swift replacement.

West Berks D.C.

Further CCTV discussions, documented above. Update on imminent paving works in Town Centre. Much discussion on non-use of bitumen seals in street repairs.

Newbury Retail Association

Mostly already covered, but there were discussions on retail representation on NRA, control of chuggers / pedlars, crime levels, roadworks, retail departures and imminent retail / eatery arrivals.

AOB

None.

Meeting concluded with appreciation being shown for Pete Atkinson role as temporary Chair,.

Next Meeting 15 October 2010