

**Town Centre Partnership  
Meeting 23 September 2011**

**MINUTES**

|                     |                          |                             |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Present</b>      | Peter Atkinson (PA)      | Chamber of Commerce (Chair) |
|                     | Malcolm Bull (MB)        | Rivar                       |
|                     | Anthony Cox (AC)         | Donnington Valley           |
|                     | Russell Downing (RD)     | BID Development Manager     |
|                     | Jonathan Hopson (JH)     | Camp Hopson                 |
|                     | Brian Burgess (BB)       | Newbury Retail Association  |
|                     | Jeremy Holden-Bell (JHB) | Newbury Society             |
|                     | Jeff Beck (JB)           | West Berks Council          |
|                     | Maurice Elliott (ME)     | TCP Treasurer               |
|                     | Pamela Bale (PB)         | West Berks Council          |
|                     | Katy Griffiths (KG)      | Corn Exchange               |
|                     | Steve Brind (SB)         | Charter Market              |
|                     | Una Carr (UC)            | Newbury College             |
|                     | David Allen (DA)         | Newbury Town Council        |
|                     | Neil Carter (NAC)        | S.L.I                       |
|                     | Patrick Griffin (PG)     | Sutton Griffin              |
|                     | Liz Chandler (LC)        | Natures Corner              |
| Roger Hunneman (RH) | West Berks Council       |                             |
| Dave Milsom (DM)    | Thames Valley Police     |                             |
| John Barham (JB)    | Market Working Party     |                             |

**In Attendance**

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Chris Rice (CR)      | Camp Hopson .        |
| Graham Hunt (GH)     | Newbury Town Council |
| Mark Cole (MC)       | West Berks Council   |
| David Appleton (DAP) | West Berks Council   |
| Keith Ulyatt (KU)    | West Berks Council   |

**Apologies**      Julian Swift-Hook, Mag Williams, Tom Rossiter, John Hampson, David Blake, Nick Carter

**Minutes of last meeting**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 19 August were accepted as a true and correct record with the following amendments

- Both existing branches of Barclays will be closed on relocation to Parkway.
- Additional night time taxi ranks will be in operation

## **Matters arising**

Discussion regarding branding for 2012 will be carried forward

## **Parkway**

NAC gave a presentation covering the launch day and opening weekend. On the launch day there will be a parade with a 'Jack is Back' theme prior to the official opening at 11.00 a.m. There will be entertainment over the weekend. 1500/2000 people are expected to attend the opening with about 20000 visitors a day totalling about 70000 over the 4 days. The car park will be open from 9.00 a.m. with marshals stationed at the entrance and in the car park. If the car park is full marshals will direct traffic in London Road. No deliveries will be permitted after 9.00 a.m. An Event Safety Plan has been drawn up in conjunction with West Berks Council and the emergency services. GH asked if there were contingencies for other congestion points. MC confirmed that key junctions will be monitored and CIO's will be stationed at ticket machines to help traffic flow. MC presented a map showing the location of the new signage. Variable Message Signs (VMS) linked to the main car parks covering about 75% of total spaces will give information on spaces available on approaches to the town. Fixed signs will give detailed directions. All signage will be in place prior to Parkway opening.

KU presented the leaflet and Communications Plan regarding traffic and transport changes. 45000 leaflets will be printed and advertisements placed in the Newbury Weekly News and Advertiser. The leaflet will also be available on the West Berks website. PB said that it is hoped that some of the expenditure can be used for entertainment involving the whole of the town in the celebration. There was discussion regarding Park Way Bridge particularly the potential danger to cyclists and pedestrians. DM asked who will be responsible for enforcing the no cars policy. MC explained that West Berks will use camera enforcement issuing penalty notices for non compliance. It was agreed that Waitrose car park will be added if they are agreeable and the note regarding Park Way Bridge will read 'buses taxis cycles only- two way'. RH asked the position regarding parking spaces for residents of Park Terrace. NAC has no knowledge of this. RH will progress with West Berks.

MC reported that paving work at the entrance to East St will be carried out between 3-7 Oct. Northbrook St will be closed between 16-18 Oct for resurfacing.

NAC confirmed that there would be events associated with the opening of John Lewis and the launch will be marketed beyond Newbury.

## **Events & Communication**

Kg reported that Page Blanche will take place in the Market Place on 1 October. It is hoped that 2500/3000 people will attend. Halloween Hullabaloo will take place on 30 October coordinated with the Parkway events. Christmas events will

be arranged in conjunction with Greenham Common Trust. PG explained that TCP would not be organising further events, concentrating on the BID.

### **Finance & Strategy**

The financial reports were circulated. MB presented a memo regarding the relationship between the TCP and CIC. This will be circulated to all members for discussion at a future meeting.

**BID Group** RD reported that a draft Business Plan will be issued at the end of October. This will be based on consultations but will be subject to change until the end of the year. Further projects will be welcomed. PA emphasised the importance of businesses registering on the website and voting on projects.

**Police Report** DM reported that the focus is on shoplifting and antisocial behaviour. Resources will be in place for the Michaelmas Fair. Assaults have fallen by 30%.

### **Newbury T.C.**

GH reported that a continental /international market will be held on 6-8 October. The Heritage Lottery Fund bid for Victoria Park has been submitted. The council is considering a contribution to the Newbury Flood Alleviation Scheme. Items have been added to the BID project list. The council will submit its votes when the project list has been finalised. The availability of the 2012 cycling event depends on whether Salisbury decides to proceed. The load test for the banner site has been scheduled. Christmas light switch on will take place on 25 November. A working group has been established to plan the Town Council sponsored Diamond Jubilee and Olympiad events. Notes from the Safety and Security Group meeting on 10 August will be circulated. The next meeting has been rescheduled to 30 November. The Accessibility, Parking and Transport Group met on 9 September.

### **N.R.A.**

BB reported that the NRA has not met since the last TCP meeting. There is still an issue with antisocial behaviour in Bartholomew St and early morning deliveries being tampered with. DM explained that a lack of reports made it difficult for the police to act. BB confirmed that the new constitution has been prepared.

**AOB**

DM advised that the Remembrance Parade will take place in the Market Place. JHB reported that the Discover Newbury weekend had been successful with a 405 increase in visitors

**Next Meeting**

21 October at West Berks Council

Proposed Dates for future meetings (all Fridays 9.30-11.30am)

18 November 11