

BLACKWOOD TOWN CENTRE AUDIT – OCTOBER 2014

DATE	ISSUE	DEPARTMENT	PROGRESS UPDATE
21/02/13	<p><u>Provision of a Dedicated Disabled Parking Bay High Street</u> Officers have received a request to consider moving the disabled spaces for blue badge holders that are on the slope of Woodbine Road to the High Street parking bay that is fronting Tidal Stores to the Solicitors' offices where the road is flatter.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>2/6 All consultations are complete and a report is being produced for consideration by the Head of Engineering Services. 4/8 The works have been passed to a contractor and will be carried out shortly.</p>
03/05/13	<p><u>Installation of Posts & Road Studs on Crossing O/S Argos, High Street</u> Cllr. Dix has requested the installation of posts and road studs on the crossing point outside Argos to compliment the defensive street furniture on the opposite side of the road and make the crossing safer.</p>	<p>Urban Renewal <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p> <p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>16/5 An update was provided to the TCMG. 2/6 A budget needs to be identified to carry out additional works. 4/8 A budget has been identified and the bollards have been ordered. Installation will be carried out in approximately 4 weeks.</p>
02/10/13	<p><u>Poundstretcher Site High Street</u> Officers continue to work with Poundstretchers in an attempt to rebuild the store and enable the retailer to return to the town centre.</p>	<p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>16/5 An update was provided to the TCMG. 2/6 The property's insurance company still hasn't settled the claim. 4/8 The insurance claim has yet to be settled.</p>

08/01/14	<p><u>Homeless People</u> <u>Rear of High Street/Bus Station</u> A retailer complaint has been received in relation to the lane at the rear of High Street. Homeless people are sleeping at the rear of the old Halifax building in the evenings and rummaging through neighbouring businesses' waste, which is causing a large amount of litter to be strewn across the lane and surrounding area.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Kath Peters</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Thomas</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>2/6 Patrols have increased and the problems have reduced. Ongoing meetings have been set up on how to address the issues around homeless people. 4/8 No further reports have been received by the Police. Issue Closed 4/8</p>
27/01/14	<p><u>Smoking & Cigarette Ends</u> <u>Town Centre</u> A complaint has been received from Cllr. Dix in relation to smoking outside public houses in the town centre. A group of smokers outside a pub creates an unpleasant environment for passing pedestrians and an accumulation of cigarette ends.</p>	<p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>16/5 An update was provided to the TCMG. 2/6 Officers continue to monitor and enforce. 4/8 An improvement has been seen. Issue Closed 4/8</p>
03/02/14	<p><u>Cinema Development</u> <u>High Street</u> The former Bingo Hall is being converted back to a Cinema by a private, independent operator.</p>	<p>Development Control <i>Tim Stephens</i></p> <p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE.</p> <p>16/5 An update was provided to the TCMG. 2/6 Fit out works are ongoing. It is anticipated that the cinema will be operational in July. 4/8 The cinema is due to open on 6th August.</p>

17/04/14	<p><u>Car Cruisers</u> <u>ASDA Car Park, Cliff Road</u> ASDA management has noticed an increase in the number of car cruisers congregating in the car park during the evenings. This is leading to an increase in litter and anti social behaviour.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Thomas</i></p>	<p>17/4 Following a meeting with the store management and Police Officers, the area will be added to the patrol plan. 2/6 A slight increase has been noticed recently, so operations are running on Thursday evenings. 4/8 The situation appears to be under control, but will continue to be monitored.</p>
06/05/14	<p><u>Removal of High Kerb</u> <u>Junction of High Street/Pentwyn Road</u> Cllr. Dix asked Officers to consider the removal of the high kerb at this location, to make the area safer and more accessible for pedestrians. There are dropped kerbs on either side of the area.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>2/6 Works are ongoing. 4/8 No update was available.</p>
07/05/14	<p><u>Graffiti Removal</u> <u>Town Centre</u> Graffiti has been placed the “Defining the Future” sign on the Northern end of town, which requires cleaning.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p>	<p>2/6 The removal has been passed on to the cleansing team. 4/8 Graffiti has been removed. Issue Closed 4/8</p>
07/05/14	<p><u>Graffiti Removal</u> <u>R/O High Street</u> Graffiti has been placed on the rear of the Shoe Zone property, which requires removal. An indemnity form has been completed by the business, which authorises the works.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p>	<p>2/6 The removal has been passed on to the cleansing team. 4/8 All businesses that have completed an indemnity form have been cleaned. Issue Closed 4/8</p>

16/05/14	<p><u>Toilet Block Enhancement High Street</u> At the TCMG, it was agreed that proposals would be developed to try and improve the appearance of the disused toilet block on High Street. Should the proposals be approved, the Area Forum Budget may fund the scheme.</p>	<p>Urban Renewal <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p>2/6 Officers are currently in discussions on how to address the issues. 4/8 No resources are available at present. A scheme is likely to cost around £3k.</p>
19/05/14	<p><u>Beach Party Event Town Centre</u> The summer “beach party” event will be returning to the town centre on 28th and 29th June.</p>	<p>Business Enterprise Support Team <i>Paul Hudson</i></p>	<p>2/6 Preparations by the Events Team continue. 4/8 The event was successful and well received. Issue Closed 4/8</p>
19/05/14	<p><u>Choose the High Street Campaign Town Centre</u> Town Centre Management will be launching a summer campaign across the five managed towns, encouraging consumers to “Choose the High Street”. The scheme will run over the summer period and use several forms of media.</p>	<p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>2/6 Campaign has been launched to encourage shoppers to “choose the high street” and to also encourage businesses to trade from them. 4/8 The campaign has started well and will continue over the summer period. Press releases are continuing. The next phase will be to work with property agents to try and fill vacant town centre properties.</p>
13/06/14	<p><u>Removal of Overgrown Foliage O/S Kingdom Hall, High Street</u> The foliage within the boundary of Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses has become overgrown and is obstructing the footway.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>13/6 Notice will be served on the landowner for the plants to be trimmed back. 4/8 The landowner has carried out the work. Issue Closed 4/8</p>

04/07/14	<p><u>General Cleansing</u> <u>Interchange Bus Station</u> The footpath leading to the Interchange Bus Station requires grubbing out and power washing. There is also a lot of litter on the path and in the flowerbeds alongside.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	<p>4/8 The areas have been cleaned. Issue Closed 4/8</p>
08/07/14	<p><u>Weeding of Steps</u> <u>Hall Street</u> The steps leading from High Street to Hall Street require weeding to improve their appearance.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p> <p>Parks Services <i>Derek Price</i></p>	<p>4/8 The work has been carried out. Issue Closed 4/8</p>
21/07/14	<p><u>Raised Paving Slabs</u> <u>Blackwood Retail Park</u> Some paving slabs on the boundary of Blackwood Retail Park have become significantly raised, which poses a trip hazard.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>4/8 Highways Inspectors are assessing whether this land is owned by the Authority.</p>
20/08/14	<p><u>Loading Bay Reinstatement</u> <u>High Street</u> A complaint has been received from a business in relation to the loading bay near the junction of Woodbine Road. The bay's line markings have not been reinstated following the recent carriageway resurfacing.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	
20/08/14	<p><u>Damage to Maxime Cinema Signage</u> <u>High Street</u> The lighting on the signage at the front of the Maxime Cinema has been damaged. The situation needs to be monitored to prevent further damage.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Thomas</i></p>	

28/08/14	<p><u>Youth Annoyance & Damage</u> <u>O/S New Look, High Street</u> The manager of the New Look store has complained of instances of youth annoyance in and around the store since the cinema opening. There have also been some damage to the rear of the store.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Thomas</i></p>	
03/09/14	<p><u>Christmas Event</u> <u>Town Centre</u> Planning is underway for a Christmas event in the town centre, which is scheduled to take place on 6th & 7th December 2014.</p>	<p>Business Enterprise Support Team <i>Paul Hudson</i></p>	
03/09/14	<p><u>“Choose The High Street @ Christmas”</u> <u>Campaign</u> <u>Town Centre</u> The “Choose the High Street” campaign is being extended to the Christmas period to encourage people to shop locally this Christmas. The scheme will involve a voucher scheme that all retailers will have the opportunity to sign up to.</p>	<p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	
04/09/14	<p><u>Rat Problem</u> <u>ASDA, Cliff Road</u> The ASDA store manager has complained of a rat infestation on the Council-owned steps leading from the Miners’ Institute to the retail park.</p>	<p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p> <p>Parks Services <i>Derek Price</i></p>	