

## BLACKWOOD TOWN CENTRE AUDIT – APRIL 2015

DATE	ISSUE	DEPARTMENT	PROGRESS UPDATE
02/10/13	<p><b><u>Poundstretcher Site High Street</u></b>                      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><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>10/2 The property's agent is querying whether the lease with Poundstretcher has expired. If it has, a new tenant will need to be secured before the building is rebuilt.                      20/3 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
17/04/14	<p><b><u>Car Cruisers ASDA Car Park, Cliff Road</u></b>                      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><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins Thomas</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>8/12 The road closure could not be enforced for 3-4 weeks due to problems with the signage. However, no increase was seen. Police Officers have offered to assist ASDA in issuing Banning Orders.                      10/2 An improvement has been noticed.                      20/3 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
16/05/14	<p><b><u>Toilet Block Enhancement High Street</u></b>                      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><b>Urban Renewal</b>  <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>8/12 As the toilet block is on private land, works are hindered. However, a funding bid will be looked at.                      10/2 Funding is still being sought.                      20/3 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>

19/05/14	<p><b><u>Choose the High Street Campaign</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  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><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>17/10 An update was provided to the TCMG.  8/12 Updates to the TCMG are ongoing. The project is aimed to be long-term, with more initiatives launching in 2015.  10/2 This aspect of the campaign has now finished.  <b>Issue Closed 10/2</b></p>
03/09/14	<p><b><u>Christmas Event</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  Planning is underway for a Christmas event in the town centre, which is scheduled to take place on 6<sup>th</sup> &amp; 7<sup>th</sup> December 2014.</p>	<p><b>Business Enterprise Support Team</b>  <i>Paul Hudson</i></p>	<p>6/10 Planning for the event continues.  17/10 An update was provided to the TCMG.  8/12 The event was well-received and an update will be provided to the TCMG.  10/2 The event was successful and well-received.  <b>Issue Closed 10/2</b></p>
03/09/14	<p><b><u>“Choose The High Street @ Christmas” Campaign</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  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><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>6/10 A Christmas voucher booklet is being produced for the five managed towns. Retailers are currently being invited to submit offers.  17/10 An update was provided to the TCMG.  8/12 40,000 voucher booklets have been distributed across the Borough. A supporting YouTube video is launching on 8/12.  10/2 The scheme was successfully completed.  <b>Issue Closed 10/2</b></p>

04/09/14	<p><b><u>Rat Problem</u></b>  <b><u>ASDA, Cliff Road</u></b>  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><b>Environmental Health</b>  <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p> <p><b>Parks Services</b>  <i>Derek Price</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>8/12 Monitoring and baiting is ongoing.  10/2 The area has been baited. Additional complaints have also been received from Aldi. Sewer baiting will be taking place over the next few months.  20/3 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
16/10/14	<p><b><u>Installation of Christmas Illuminations</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  The lamp post banners are due to be removed for the Christmas period to make way for the festive illuminations that will be placed on lighting columns throughout the town centre.</p>	<p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>8/12 The illuminations have been installed and no issues have been raised  10/2 Complete.  <b>Issue Closed 10/2</b></p>
17/10/14	<p><b><u>Road Closed Signage</u></b>  <b><u>High Street/Pentwyn Road</u></b>  The "road closed" signage that activates on a Thursday night appears to be malfunctioning and is remaining illuminated when the road closure is no longer in force.</p>	<p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	<p>8/12 A new radio unit is required, which has been ordered via the signage manufacturer.  10/2 The signage is now fully operational.  <b>Issue Closed 10/2</b></p>
17/10/14	<p><b><u>Antisocial Behaviour</u></b>  <b><u>Interchange Bus Station</u></b>  A number of instances of antisocial behaviour have been recorded in and around the bus station. The Community Safety Unit runs a multi-agency group, which includes the Police, and will monitor the situation as part of its ongoing work.</p>	<p><b>Community Safety</b>  <i>Kath Peters</i></p> <p><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins Thomas</i></p>	<p>8/12 The next problem-solving group meeting is being held on 10/12. The toilets will be swabbed to confirm reports of drug use.  10/2 The problem-solving group continues to meet. The issue of homeless people is being dealt with separately.  20/3 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>

05/12/14	<p><b><u>Paving Repairs</u></b>  <b><u>Hall Street</u></b>  Repairs are required to the paving in the area where the recycling unit was once housed. The pavements were damaged during the unit's removal.</p>	<p><b>Highways</b>  <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	<p>10/2 The works have been carried out.  <b>Issue Closed 10/2</b></p>
05/12/14	<p><b><u>Reinstatement of Bollard</u></b>  <b><u>Hall Street</u></b>  A vehicle has struck a bollard in Hall Street, which now requires re-setting.</p>	<p><b>Highways</b>  <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	<p>10/2 The bollard has been reinstated.  <b>Issue Closed 10/2</b></p>
23/01/15	<p><b><u>Choose the High Street – Past &amp; Present</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  The next phase of the Choose the High Street campaign will start in 2015. Entitled 'Choose the High Street - Past &amp; Present' the campaign will aim to reconnect people with their local town centre.</p>	<p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>10/2 This is a new initiative for 2015. Archive photographs are currently being sourced and a public prize draw is being arranged.  20/3 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
23/01/15	<p><b><u>Banner Changeovers</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  The banners on the street lighting columns will be installed during February throughout the town centre.</p>	<p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>10/2 The brief has been sent to the contractors and the banners are due to be in place by 26/2.</p>
28/01/15	<p><b><u>Broken Artwork</u></b>  <b><u>Gordon Road / High Street</u></b>  Following a road traffic accident the artwork railing at the location has been severely damaged in the impact of the crash.</p>	<p><b>Urban Renewal</b>  <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p>10/2 A replacement is being sourced.  20/3 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
04/02/15	<p><b><u>Street Sign Resetting</u></b>  <b><u>Gordon Road</u></b>  A street sign on Gordon Road is damaged and one of its legs requires resetting.</p>	<p><b>Highways</b>  <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	

04/02/15	<p><b><u>Cleaning of Artwork</u></b>  <b><u>Gordon Road</u></b>  The artwork outside the Library has mould forming on the glass panels and the surrounding area requires cleansing.</p>	<p><b>Urban Renewal</b>  <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	
04/02/15	<p><b><u>Repainting of Benches and Bollards</u></b>  <b><u>Woodbine Road</u></b>  The paintwork on the benches and bollards on Woodbine Road is worn and damaged, which requires repainting.</p>	<p><b>Highways</b>  <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	
19/02/15	<p><b><u>Faded Road Marking</u></b>  <b><u>Wesley Road</u></b>  A give way marking on the highway near Argos is worn and requires repainting.</p>	<p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	
19/02/15	<p><b><u>Broken Window</u></b>  <b><u>113 High Street</u></b>  The Town Council has reported a broken front window on the vacant property. Entry to the building does not appear to have been gained.</p>	<p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	
20/03/15	<p><b><u>Retailer Security Briefing</u></b>  <b><u>Maxime Cinema, High Street</u></b>  Gwent Police Officers are arranging a security briefing for retailers on 14<sup>th</sup> April. The briefing is being delivered by Special Branch and will make retailers aware of potential terrorist activities.</p>	<p><b>Gwent Police</b>  <i>Ins Thomas</i></p> <p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	
24/03/15	<p><b><u>Cleaning of Toilets</u></b>  <b><u>Interchange Bus Station</u></b>  A complaint was posted on the Council's Facebook page that the public toilets at the Interchange Bus Station are in need of an urgent clean.</p>	<p><b>Cleansing</b>  <i>Tony White</i></p>	

31/03/15	<p><b><u>Companies Canvassing for Business</u></b> <b><u>O/S The Market Place, High Street</u></b></p> <p>The Chair of Blackwood Retail Partnership has complained that companies are using High Street at the entrance to the Market Place without consent to canvas for business. Mr. Edwards has received numerous complaints from shoppers who are unhappy about this activity.</p>	<p><b>Highways</b> <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	
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