



BARGOED TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT TREDOMEN BUSINESS CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2013 AT 2:00PM

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Councillor D. Carter (Chairman), D. Price (Vice Chair), H. Andrews, D.T. Davies, A.G. Higgs, K. James, K.V. Reynolds

Together with:

H. Llewellyn (Town Councillor), B. Jarrett (Bargoed Chamber of Trade), Sergeant Mancino (Gwent Police), Mr J Coles (Alun Griffiths Contractors)

Also:

A. Highway (Town Centre Development Manager), S. Wilcox (Assistant Town Centre Manager), P. Hudson (Marketing and Events Manager), R. Tanner (Strategic Planning and Urban Renewal Manager), A. Jones (Complaints Officer),

APOLOGIES

J. Bennett (Group Manager Advisory Services), D. Morgan (Mayor)

Cllr Carter started the meeting by thanking Roger Tanner for all of his hard work and dedication to the regeneration project in Bargoed over the last 15 years. Each member in turn also thanked Roger Tanner along with Mr Jarrett who wished to pass on thanks to Roger Tanner on behalf of the Bargoed Chamber of Trade.

1. MINUTES (3RD OCTOBER 2012)

Previous minutes were taken as read

2. JOB CREATION/JOB LOSSES IN BARGOED TOWN CENTRE 2012

The report was read by Andrew Highway and taken as read.

Cllr Reynolds asked if there was any evidence that the unique places Christmas card was successful.

Andrew Highway advised that the scheme had been well received by retailers with over 70% expressing an interest in participating in it this year. Also, local press cuttings had highlighted how the scheme had contributed to an increase in town centre footfall over the Christmas period.

Cllr Llewellyn wished it to be noted that the Town Council played an important role and had not been noted previously.

The Chair wished it to be noted that this was a joint effort from Town Councillors and Paul Hudson's team. This was agreed by all present.

Cllr Carter wished to note thanks on behalf of the Bargoed Town Centre Management Group to Alun Griffiths Contractors for helping the local business and shoppers throughout their working day particularly with assisting traders with gaining access to their premises for deliveries and access for shoppers also for the help workers have provided with assisting customers with their bags.

3. MORRISONS UPDATE

The update was presented by Roger Tanner not Allan Dallimore as set out in the agenda.

The steel frame is to be erected by March 2013 and works will continue. The store is looking to be opening in December.

Marketing agents are currently looking through possible businesses to occupy the 7 shop units.

4. CINEMA UPDATE

Design team and Legal team are working through things. Works to commence once Morrison's completed.

Council is looking to negotiate with Simon's over possibility of them clearing the site sooner so that work can commence earlier.

Site to the rear is currently under discussions with cabinet over the possibility of using it for restaurants.

Permanent car park to be built starting last week of February which will affect the temporary car park for a period of 5 weeks.

5. MARKET UPDATE

The market will remain in St Gwladys car park for a 6 month, trial commencing on 4th April. Officers will evaluate after the 6 months and further consultation with traders to ascertain if the market is to be a permanent one.

Andrew Highway has been, advised, by Dean Smith in Engineers, that the car park above the snooker hall will be closed due to health and safety issues.

6. ST DAVID'S DAY

Paul Hudson confirmed that the event was so successful last year they are looking for extra funding of £1,000 for leaflets & posters to promote the event to schools, parents and the public.

10 shops will be needed to hold the answers to enable the children to follow the pilgrim trail to discover the facts about St David. Mr Jarret confirmed he, will raise this matter with the Chamber of Trade.

Cllr Dianne Price has requested that more seating be arranged, as there was not sufficient seating previously.

The vote was put to the group. 9 voted in favour of the request for funding. There were none against and no abstentions.

Cllr Carter wished to record his thanks on behalf of the Town Centre Management Group to Paul Hudson and his team for all of their hard work with the Christmas event.

7. PUBLIC REALM

Mr John Coles from Alun Griffiths Contractors presented his power point presentation showing how the works have been carried out to date and showing how the next phases will come into operation.

Mr John Coles thanked the group for their kind words and thanks for the workers assisting both traders and customers with gaining access to the shops. He will relay these comments back to his team.

Phase 3 is due to be completed by 26th July 2013 possibly will need extension into August. The footway in front of the police station is to commence in April.

Phase 5 & 6 kerb construction will take place between May & June in conjunction with Morrison works.

Cllr Tudor Davies raised concerns over parking issues and asked for the bus lay-by outside Spar to be reviewed.

Andrew Highway referred this concern to Cllr Ken James and requested that it be moved to the Town Centre Improvement Group for further discussions. Also asked Gwent Police and Mr Jarrett to provide further feed back ready for the next Town Centre Improvement Group.

Andrew Highway is to also meet with Allan Dallimore to discuss the possibility of installing bollards.

8. BARGOED TOWN CENTRE AUDIT (JANUARY 2013)

Consideration was given to the September Audit and taken as read.

The meeting closed at 15:19

CHAIRMAN