



BLACKWOOD TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP – 23RD NOVEMBER 2006

**SUBJECT: BLACKWOOD PUBLIC ARTWORK STRATEGY, TOWN CENTRE
MANAGEMENT GROUP UPDATE, NOVEMBER 2006 - INSTALLATION
OF TIMELINE, BLACKWOOD HIGH STREET**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENT

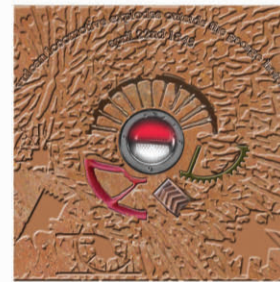
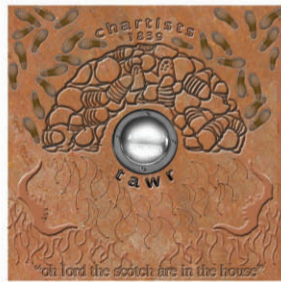
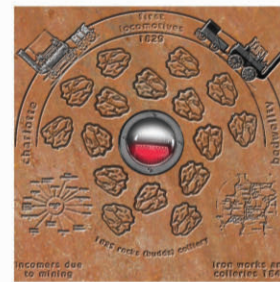
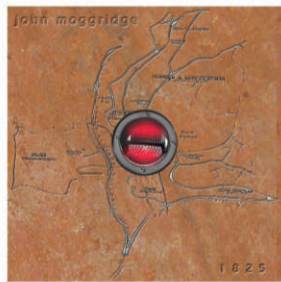
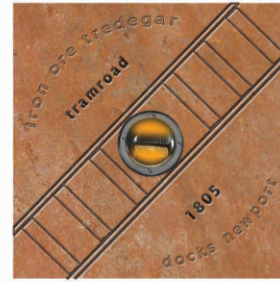
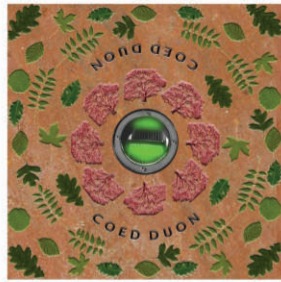
1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Members will be aware that a successful grant application to the Arts Council of Wales has allowed officers of the Council, in conjunction with the Blackwood Arts Sub Group, to develop a Public Artwork Strategy for the town of Blackwood. A number of locations have been identified within this strategy for the introduction of public artwork and £150,000 has been secured through grant aid to start implementing proposals within the strategy.
- 1.2 Phase 1 of the artwork strategy is now complete with pieces being installed at Hall Street and opposite the Miners Institute.

2. CURRENT POSITION

- 2.1 Work on the 2nd phase has now commenced. The group will be aware that the Blackwood Arts Sub Group has commissioned the artist Michael Fairfax to develop and install a "time line" through the town centre that delineates the main historical events in the development of Blackwood.
- 2.2 Michael has been concentrating for some time on the development of these pieces and has worked with local groups and school children in formulating his ideas.
- 2.3 We now have a series of 9 bronze reliefs to be set into the existing paving throughout Blackwood High Street. People viewing these pieces will be led on a physical and historical trip through the town centre. The location of each of these pieces is shown on the attached plan.
- 2.4 Each piece is shown overleaf. You will notice that one design is missing. This is because the artist is asking for memorabilia to commemorate the history of Blackwood and will take his design cues for this last piece from any objects that he receives.
- 2.5 Each piece will be 40cm by 40cm in size with a depth of 5cm. This size is akin to a typical standard pavement slab so installation will be a fairly simple process. The Council's DDA Officer has been consulted along with Highway Engineers to ensure that the location and design of these pieces do not constitute a hazard for those pedestrians using the town centre.

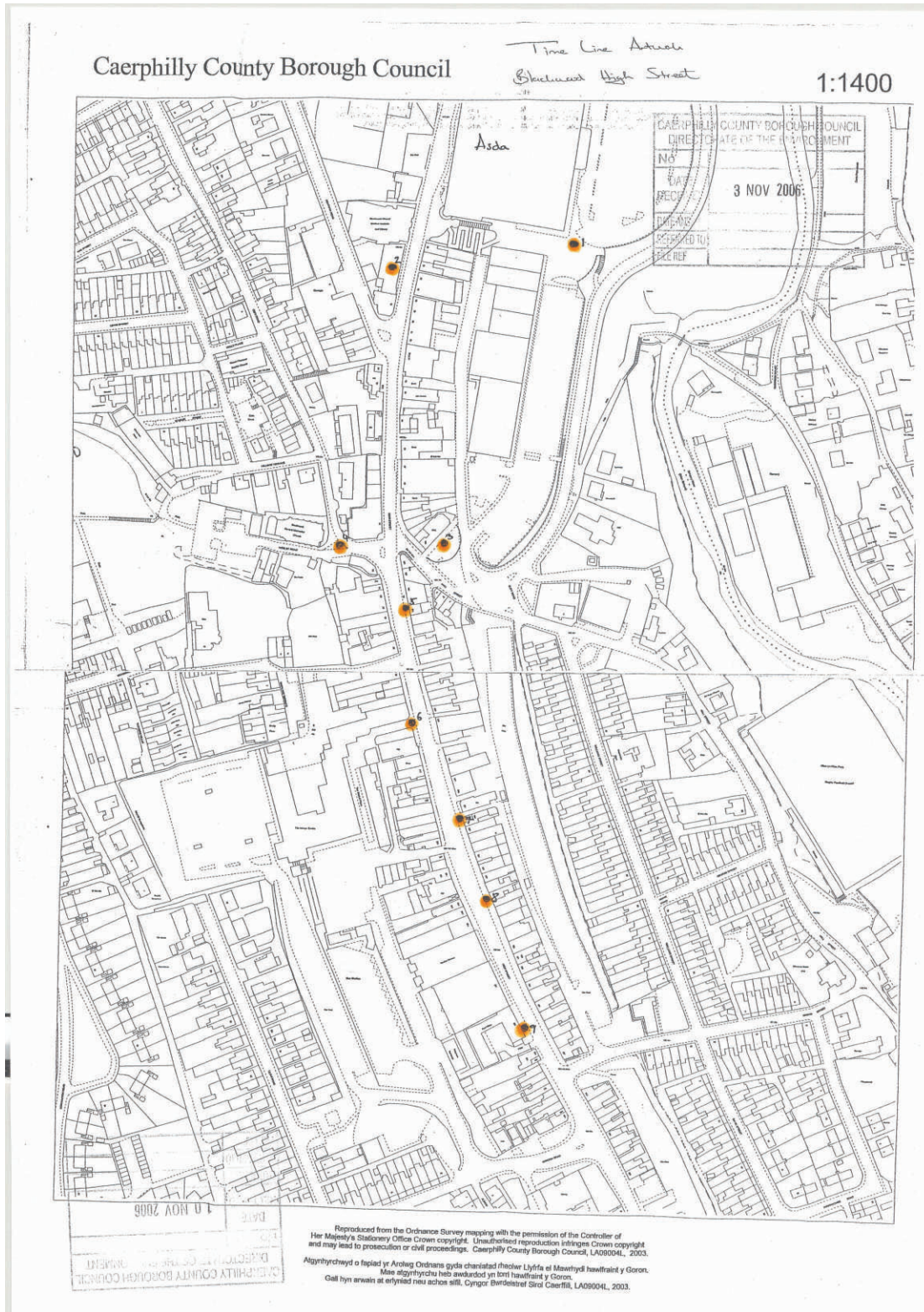
BLACKWOOD TIME LINE



MICHAEL FAIRFAX 2006

- 2.6 As you will see from the diagrams above, each piece will have a small astucia solar light as it's central theme. These solar lights will come in a range of colours and will give off a warm glow through the hours of darkness.

LOCATION PLAN FOR TIMELINE PIECES



Author: Allan Dallimore, Urban Renewal Manager