

BLACKWOOD TOWN CENTRE AUDIT – SEPTEMBER 2011

DATE	ISSUE	DEPARTMENT	PROGRESS UPDATE
13/04/10	<p><u>Condition Of Land</u> <u>ASDA Development</u> The land in the area surrounding the ASDA store is in need of attention, as there is a build up of litter and refuse.</p>	<p>Strategic Planning <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p> <p>Advisory Services <i>Andrew Highway</i></p> <p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p> <p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>10/6 The Gwent Probation Team cleaned the area owned by CCBC during w/c 6/6. 18/7 The area appears to be in a better condition. Will continue to monitor.</p>
21/10/10	<p><u>Change Pelican To Zebra Crossing Points</u> <u>High Street</u> Following the Powell Dobson Study on the town centre, officers have explored areas of the report that can be taken forward. One of these is changing the crossing points from 'Pelican' to 'Zebra'.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p> <p>Strategic Planning <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p>15/11 A further review will be undertaken after the railings have been removed. 24/1 A report will be presented to the Town Centre Management Group. 28/3 Officers will continue to examine the issue. 23/5 Discussed at TCMG. Will continue to progress as part of a wider regeneration project. 18/7 No further update. Agreed that Town Centre Management would put together a letter / questionnaire asking retailers how they would feel with regards to the change.</p>

01/11/10	<p><u>Creation Of 20 mph Zone High Street</u> At the TCMG (21/10) it was requested that the council consider creating a 20 mph zone throughout High Street in order to slow the traffic flow</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	<p>15/11 A further review will be undertaken after the railings have been removed. 24/1 The issue is being reported to Regeneration Scrutiny Committee in February. 28/3 Officers will continue to examine the issue. 23/5 No evidence of excessive speed. Continuing to review area. 18/7 Limited benefit of changing, as it is currently a low speed environment. The issue will be considered as part of a larger Regeneration Scheme Project. Agreed for issue to remain open.</p>
09/12/10	<p><u>Closure Of Public Toilets On Sundays Interchange Bus Station</u> Cllr Presley & Cllr Smallman has expressed concern that the toilets are closed on a Sunday. They have asked officers to explain the reasons for this.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p>	<p>9/12 Cleansing officers have responded that the facility has never opened on a Sunday and therefore funding has not been allocated to open it on this day. 24/1 Officers will report back at to the next meeting. 18/2 Public Services provided members with details of the Sunday opening hours. Although the facility is closed on a Sunday, the owner of the Plaza Café at the Interchange Bus Station has been offered a key for use of his customers 28/3 The Chair and Cllr Smallman agreed to raise this matter with the Head of Public Services. 23/5 Cllr Smallman asked for the facilities to be open on a Sunday and there have been issues with substance misuse. 18/7 Cllr Smallman and Gwent Police are monitoring the area. Issue Closed 18/7</p>

11/03/11	<p><u>Take Away Smells</u> <u>High Street</u></p> <p>A retailer has complained that they are concerned that a new take away restaurant opening in High Street will mean that smells will permeate through the walls and affect the clothing on sale.</p>	<p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	<p>28/3 The matter will be discussed further between officers to see how odour at the premises can be controlled. 23/5 Owners have been introduced which has helped the situation. The situation will be monitored. 18/7 A Planning application has been submitted.</p>
21/03/11	<p><u>Flyposting</u> <u>TA Pub - High Street</u></p> <p>A person using a black Vauxhall motor vehicle was seen flyposting on the exterior of the TA Pub on Sunday March 20th. The registration number was noted and photos were taken.</p>	<p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	<p>28/3 Community Payback Group are removing and cleaning up the area. The matter will be raised with the owner of the car and Police will issue a warning. 23/5 A protocol has been introduced to deal with flyposting. The previous perpetrator has not yet been identified. 18/7 The perpetrator has now been identified, it is anticipated that they will be cautioned. Community Safety officers will look into the CCTV provision around the TA Pub site.</p>
18/04/11	<p><u>Busking Nuisance</u> <u>Town Centre</u></p> <p>Complaints have been received from retailers regarding loud noise from buskers in the town centre.</p>	<p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p>	<p>23/5 There has been difficulty in implementation of the relevant legislation. The Police will obtain the name and address of the busker and provide to Lyndon Ross. 18/7 This matter could be addressed as 'antisocial behaviour'. Police to consider.</p>
03/05/11	<p><u>Repaint Benches & Bollards</u> <u>Woodbine Road</u></p> <p>The benches and bollards on Woodbine Road require repainting to improve their appearance. The surrounding area also requires general cleansing.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>23/5 The two-man team will be completing the work shortly. 18/7 Works complete. Issue Closed 18/7</p>

05/05/11	<p><u>Car Cruisers</u> <u>ASDA Car Park, Cliff Road</u> Cllr. Dix raised the issue of car cruisers congregating in ASDA car park on a Thursday night, which is causing a nuisance for residents.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p>	<p>23/5 A meeting took place between the Police, Local Members and the Store Manager. The layout of the car park is due to be altered to address the issue. 18/7 Car cruising has changed to a Wednesday evening. Complaints have been passed onto Police.</p>
04/05/11	<p><u>New Pedestrian Barrier</u> <u>Gordon Road</u> The pedestrian barrier on the corner of Gordon Road is to be replaced. The new barrier will be a bespoke design consisting of materials that complement other features in the town centre.</p>	<p>Strategic Planning <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p>04/5 The TCMG agreed to contribute towards the barrier with the Area Forum Budget. 23/5 A design and quote has been produced. Upon approval, the work will be completed in 6-8 weeks. 18/7 Was installed, but has been taken back as it was a bad design. Will be replaced. 22/8 Reinstallation completed. Issue Closed 22/8</p>
04/05/11	<p><u>Summer Event</u> <u>High Street</u> Advisory Services will be arranging a Summer Festival on 16th & 17th July, which will involve closing the High Street for stalls to be installed.</p>	<p>Advisory Services <i>Paul Hudson</i></p>	<p>04/5 The TCMG agreed to contribute £4k towards the event from their Area Forum Budget allocation. 18/7 The event was a great success with local retailers and stallholders reporting positively. Systems in place for retail voucher offers. Issue Closed 18/7</p>
16/05/11	<p><u>Grub Out "Circle of Life" Artwork</u> <u>High Street OS ASDA</u> The paved are of the artwork requires grubbing out to maintain its appearance.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>18/7 Work complete. Issue Closed 18/7</p>

16/05/11	<p><u>Repaint Knee Rail & Grub Out High Street OS Blackwood Miners Institute</u></p> <p>The knee rail along the paved area requires repainting due to worn and damaged paintwork. The paved area also requires grubbing out to remove weeds and grass.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>18/7 Work complete. Issue Closed 18/7</p>
16/05/11	<p><u>Repaint Railings and Grub Out Wesley Road</u></p> <p>The railing that runs along the paved area is worn and requires repainting. The paving also requires grubbing of weeds and grass.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>18/7 Work Complete. Issue Closed 18/7</p>
18/05/11	<p><u>Missing Coping Stones OS Library, Gordon Road</u></p> <p>Some coping stones have gone missing from the walled area at the Eastern entrance of Gordon Road and require replacement.</p>	<p>Strategic Planning <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p>18/7 NCS instructed to undertake the works.</p>
18/05/11	<p><u>Removal of Concrete Bollards, High Street OS Bridge Street</u></p> <p>The concrete bollards are to be removed from this area to improve the area's appearance and the overall streetscape in the town centre.</p>	<p>Strategic Planning <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p>18/7 With NCS, it will be a few weeks before completion.</p>
23/05/11	<p><u>Substance Misuse Bus Station, The Market Place</u></p> <p>Reports have been received from retailers regarding substance misuse in the Bus Station.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Howard Rees</i></p>	<p>18/7 Drugs have been found at the location. Police will continue to monitor.</p>

23/05/11	<p><u>Removal of Grit Bin</u> <u>Gordon Road</u> A grit bin has been placed in front of the “Workhorses” artwork on Gordon Road, obscuring part of the view. Removal will be arranged.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	18/7 It was agreed that the grit bin has been removed and Cllr Smallman will be informed.
23/05/11	<p><u>Trimming of Foliage</u> <u>Woodbine Road</u> The foliage in the shrub bed at the Eastern entrance of Woodbine Road is overgrown and requires pruning.</p>	<p>Parks Services <i>Derek Price</i></p>	18/7 Work complete. Issue Closed 18/7
23/05/11	<p><u>Planting of Flower Bed</u> <u>Gordon Road</u> The flowerbed at the Eastern Entrance of Gordon Road has not yet been planted out.</p>	<p>Parks Services <i>Derek Price</i></p>	18/7 Work complete. Issue Closed 18/7
27/05/11	<p><u>Grit Bins</u> <u>Town Centre</u> The temporary grit bins throughout the town centre will need to be reinstalled in preparation for the winter period.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	18/7 Planned for October.
07/07/11	<p><u>Retail Thefts</u> <u>Town Centre</u> There has been an increase in retail theft in the town centre. The <i>Blackwood Retail Partnership</i> has been set up to promote data sharing between retailers and Gwent Police. The group is supported by the councils Town Centre Management Team and the CCTV Unit.</p>	<p>Advisory Services <i>Andrew Highway</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Howard Rees</i></p>	18/7 Data sharing between retailers and Gwent Police. Meeting in Wilkinson’s once a month. The scheme should be up and running in September. Request for the Police to provide figures on thefts etc at the next TCMG meeting.

13/07/11	<p><u>Cleansing of “Dragon Circle” Northern Retail Park</u> The “Dragon Circle” paved artwork requires pressure washing to improve its appearance, along with the surrounding benches and litter bins.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p>	<p>22/8 Work has been undertaken and area cleared. Issue Closed 22/8</p>
14/07/11	<p><u>Cutting of Shrubbery High Street Car Park</u> A complaint has been received in relation to the trees and shrubbery surrounding High Street car park, which have become overgrown and require pruning.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	
15/07/11	<p><u>Repairs to Column Northern Retail Park</u> A lighting column by the ‘dragon circle’ has been sheered off and requires replacing.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	
22/07/11	<p><u>Floorscape Cleaning – Seating area High Street (North of St. Margaret’s Church)</u> The floorscape in this area requires cleaning and the associated bench requires repainting.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	
02/08/11	<p><u>Minor Improvement Schemes Town Centre</u> The following soft landscaping areas in the following locations require maintenance and additional planting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • O/S Blackwood Miner’s Institute to the right of the “Circle of Life”; • Area in front of Library. 	<p>Parks Services <i>Derek Price</i></p>	

18/08/11	<p><u>Repainting of Yellow Lines</u> <u>OS Wilkinson's, High Street</u> A request has been received from the Police to repaint the single yellow kerb markings OS Wilkinson's to be repainted.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	
18/08/11	<p><u>Lines & Signs</u> <u>Lane rear of High Street - Market Place</u> A complaint has been received that the signage in the area is not particularly clear, which leads to persistent illegal parking.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	