

BLACKWOOD TOWN CENTRE AUDIT – SEPTEMBER 2012

DATE	ISSUE	DEPARTMENT	PROGRESS UPDATE
21/10/10	<p><u>Change Pelican To Zebra Crossing Points 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>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>9/1 Town Council raised a few questions. Clive Campbell to attend the next TCMG to update. 5/3 On agenda for the next TCMG. 22/3 Update to TCMG 9/7 Agreed to leave on audit pending new TCMG.</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>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>9/1 Clive Campbell to attend the next TCMG to update. 5/3 On agenda for the next TCMG. 22/3 Update to TCMG 14/5 Proposal not supported by the TCMG. 9/7 Agreed to leave on audit pending new TCMG.</p>
21/03/11	<p><u>Flyposting Prosecution TA Pub - High Street</u> 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>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>9/1 Still waiting to receive advice from Legal department. 5/3 Tim Stephens is arranging a meeting</p>

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			<p>with Cllr Smallman to discuss. 14/5 The owner is carrying out external works on the property and surrounding site, which should be completed over the next few months. 9/7 Working with owner - a planning application was submitted on 4th July to improve the building and a Commercial Improvement Grant is being offered.</p>
18/04/11	<p><u>Busking Nuisance Town Centre</u> 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>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>9/1 Are repeatedly warning the busker and moving them on. 5/3 Limited powers on what can be done, but there has been an improvement. 14/5 The situation will continue to be monitored by Police and Council Officers and will deal with as and when needed. 9/7 Police and Environmental Health Officers have looked at the issue and spoken to the individuals concerned. Problem appears to have been resolved. Issue Closed 9/7</p>

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23/05/11	<p><u>Substance Misuse</u> <u>Bus Station, The Market Place</u> 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>Kathryn Peters</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>5/3 Regular patrols are ongoing, so far 2 operations have taken place with numerous arrests made. Some of these have been drug related. Further enforcement activity is planned throughout the Spring / Summer period. Community Safety provided wardens and follow up meetings are planned for the 15th March.</p> <p>14/5 A series of meetings are currently taking place. Two operations have taken place and actions are being taken where necessary.</p> <p>9/7 The area continues to be monitored.</p>
04/10/11	<p><u>Red Lion Public House</u> <u>High Street</u> A complaint has been made in relation to the condition and safety of the Red Lion due to the exterior works that were started prior to the business closing.</p>	<p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>9/1 Repairs and works are being carried out at the premises. Will monitor to make sure works are being undertaken and if not will take further actions.</p> <p>22/3 Update to TCMG</p> <p>14/5 Letters have been written to the owners. Enforcement powers can be used but only if necessary. Rhodri Lloyd offered resources to help clean up area.</p> <p>28/6 The owner has agreed to tidy the land</p>

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			at the North of the building, next to the car park. 9/7 Officers in Cleansing have offered to assist in cleaning the site.
26/10/11	<p><u>Lines & Signs</u> <u>High Street</u> An environmental street audit was carried out on 26/10/11 that identified several issues with lines and signs throughout the town centre:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Double-yellow lines are faded and broken throughout the town centre; 2. A directional car park sign near the Pier Head building has been damaged; 3. A 'pedestrian zone' sign on the Pier Head is loose due to missing restraining strap; 4. A 'no loading' sign opposite Cash Generator is not facing the carriageway; 5. The signpost OS Edwards Travel appears to be serving no purpose and could potentially be removed. <p>These issues have been reported to Traffic Management.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p> <p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>9/1 Contractors are due to be on site on. 5/3 items 1 to 4 have all been complete. Item 5 still waiting on a new sign to be delivered to erect. Remarking of lines will be completed as part of revised Traffic Order. 22/3 Update to TCMG 14/5 All works have been carried out. 9/7 The signpost outside Edwards Travel will be removed.</p>

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13/12/11	<p><u>Planning Notice – Condition of TA Public House High Street</u> The condition of the building has deteriorated over the last year. The Council's Planning Enforcement section will look at the area and consider whether it is appropriate for a 215 Notice to be served.</p>	<p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	<p>13/12 Update to TCMG 5/3 Looking at a Town Improvement Grant. Tim Stephens to meet with Cllr Smallman to discuss further. 22/3 Update to TCMG 14/5 Officers are awaiting improvements before issuing a notice.</p>
09/01/12	<p><u>Bins on Highway Gravel Lane</u> Reports have been received of bins being left on the Highway on Gravel Lane.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p> <p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	<p>09/1 3 Biffa Bins have been confiscated and removed from New Yummies. The business will need to pay a reinstatement cost. 5/3 Still ongoing. 14/5 Currently with Environmental Health. Looking into bin storage in the area.</p>
01/02/12	<p><u>Condition of Land Rear of Toilet Block, High Street</u> A complaint was received from Cllr. Smallman regarding the condition of the land at the rear of the toilet block.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Rhodri Lloyd</i></p> <p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	<p>01/2 A site visit indicates that the land is too difficult to access with cutting equipment. However, the brambles protruding the perimeter fences will be cut back. A Section 215 Order against the landowner will be considered. 5/3 Tim Stephens to arrange a meeting onsite with Cllr Smallman to discuss. 22/3 Update to TCMG 14/5 Long-term prospects needed, but site is privately owned. Officers to provide an update to the TCMG.</p>

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21/02/12	<p><u>Event Site</u> <u>“Dragon Circle”, Cliff Road</u> A promotional event space will be created on the Dragon Circle beside ASDA. The site will have an electric feeder pillar and can be leased by companies to run promotions.</p>	<p>Strategic Planning <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p> <p>Business Enterprise Support Team <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>21/2 Arrangements are being made for drop bollards to be installed on ASDA car park to facilitate access to site. 5/3 Met with NCS onsite. No quote provided as yet. 14/5 Officers have identified a few options. NCS awaiting a quote. 9/7 Collapsible bollards have been ordered and will be installed in due course.</p>
22/02/12	<p><u>Parking Issues</u> <u>High Street/Wesley Road</u> Cllr. Dix reported that vehicles are parking illegally to collect items from the Argos store, which is causing obstructions.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p>	<p>24/2 Ward Officers, Special Constables and Traffic Warden have all been made aware of the issue and advised to monitor. 5/3 Will continue to monitor and issue tickets. 14/5 A two-week parking operation is taking place and a zero tolerance order has also been put in place. 9/7 Police continue to monitor and enforce via periodic visits by Officers and Neighbourhood Police.</p>
05/03/12	<p><u>Street Lighting Failures</u> <u>Town Centre</u> The Blackwood Street Pastors reported some street lighting failures as part of their weekly report.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>5/3 The failures were reported to Highways Customer Care and SR numbers raised. 14/5 Repairs have been undertaken. 9/7 Work has been completed. Issue Closed 9/7</p>

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15/03/12	<p><u>Graffiti Removal</u> <u>Town Centre</u> A spate of vandalism led to a large amount of graffiti throughout the town centre.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Kathryn Peters</i></p>	<p>17/3 Community Safety Wardens visit affected businesses to sign disclaimer forms for graffiti removal. 18/3 Review of CCTV identifies two male individuals, already known to Community Safety 19/3 Police appeal for witnesses issued 14/5 Police were able to identify two of the offenders due to CS wardens and CCTV operations. 9/7 The two offenders have been identified and placed within the criminal justice system. Issue Closed 9/7</p>
03/04/12	<p><u>“No Ifs, No Butts” Campaign</u> <u>Town Centre</u> The campaign operated in four town centres to educate people on disposal of cigarette ends. This involved issuing Fixed Penalty Notices, warning letters and offering advice.</p>	<p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	<p>14/5 No update provided. 9/7 Successful campaign. Those who dropped litter/cigarette ends were advised and/or issued with fixed penalty notices. A follow-up campaign will be carried out.</p>
30/04/12	<p><u>Storm Damage</u> <u>Interchange Bus Station</u> A storm on 29th April caused damage to the aluminium cladding on the bus station canopy.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	<p>2/5 NCS attended on day of storm to make site safe. An insurance claim is being pursued and manufacture time for replacement fascias and soffits is estimated at 3 weeks. 14/5 An insurance claim is in progress. 25/6 A site meeting has taken place with appointed contractor. Materials have been ordered and work to commence shortly.</p>

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			9/7 Insurance claim is ongoing and contractors have been appointed to carry out the repair.
02/05/12	<p><u>Antisocial Behaviour Interchange Bus Station</u> There has been a general increase in anti-social behaviour in the bus station. Incidents include fights, abusive behaviour and intimidation of passengers.</p>	<p>Community Safety <i>Kath Peters</i></p>	14/5 A meeting has been arranged to discuss further.
02/05/12	<p><u>Parking Enforcement High Street</u> Complaints have been received from Blackwood Retail Partnership regarding the enforcement of the time-limited parking in bays throughout High Street.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p>	14/5 Operations take effect as of today. 9/7 Periodic patrols continue, but the problem has noticeably improved. Issue Closed 9/7
31/05/12	<p><u>Litter Nuisance Town Centre</u> A complaint was made to the Police in relation to litter in the Town Centre. The main problem areas were McDonald's car park, KFC car park and the road beneath KFC car park.</p>	<p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	1/6 A new initiative is planned with McDonald's. Enforcement Officers are scheduled to visit KFC to discuss the problem. 9/7 Follow-up to "No Ifs, No Butts" will be carried out to improve the situation.
29/05/12	<p><u>Condition of Roundabout Entrance of Northern Retail Park</u> The roundabout at the entrance to Northern Retail Park has become unkempt and requires attention to improve its appearance.</p>	<p>Parks <i>Derek Price</i></p>	29/5 Service Request 539788 was raised in relation to this matter. 9/7 Work has been carried out. Issue Closed 9/7

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12/07/12	<p><u>Damage to Bollards</u> <u>Gravel Lane</u> An individual has uprooted the bollards on Gravel Lane (near the Market Place) by repeatedly kicking them. The incident was captured on CCTV.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p>	
18/07/12	<p><u>Trimming of Shrubbery</u> <u>Hall Street</u> Some trees on Hall Street have become overgrown and are obscuring the images of the nearby CCTV camera.</p>	<p>Strategic Planning <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p> <p>Business Enterprise Support Team <i>Andrew Highway</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Kathryn Peters</i></p>	