

BLACKWOOD TOWN CENTRE AUDIT – APRIL 2014

DATE	ISSUE	DEPARTMENT	PROGRESS UPDATE
25/10/12	<p><u>Noise Nuisance</u> <u>Hall Street</u> Cllr. Dix reported resident complaints regarding noise from Colours and the new Hall Street entrance to Vanilla Bar late at night on weekends.</p>	<p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>25/11 No further nuisance has been reported. There is a Licensing appeal hearing taking place, which the Police will be attending. 3/2 Colours bar is still closed. No further complaints have been received, but the situation will continue to be monitored. Issue Closed 3/2</p>
21/02/13	<p><u>Provision of a Dedicated Disabled Parking Bay</u> <u>High Street</u> Officers have received a request to consider moving the disabled spaces for blue badge holders that are on the slope of Woodbine Road to the High Street parking bay that is fronting Tidal Stores to the Solicitors' offices where the road is flatter.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>25/11 A consultation period is currently ongoing. 3/2 The Traffic Order public consultation is ongoing. 8/4 Traffic Order process is underway.</p>
21/02/13	<p><u>Road Closure</u> <u>Pentwyn Road</u> The local Police have asked Officers to consider extending the Thursday evening road closure of the High Street to include Pentwyn Road.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>3/2 The completion of the power supply installation is still awaited. 8/4 Work was completed in March.</p>

03/05/13	<p><u>Installation of Posts & Road Studs on Crossing O/S Argos, High Street</u> Cllr. Dix has requested the installation of posts and road studs on the crossing point outside Argos to compliment the defensive street furniture on the opposite side of the road and make the crossing safer.</p>	<p>Urban Renewal <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p> <p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>25/10 Update to TCMG. Budget being secured. 25/11 Funding is still being sought. 3/2 Studs have been installed. Bollards will be installed within the next few weeks. 7/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
20/05/13	<p><u>Private Security Bus Station, The Market Place</u> Cllr. Cook raised concerns with regards to the private security being taken away from the Market Place. She feels this will increase the antisocial behaviour around 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>25/11 The security guard continues to be in post at present. The next meeting of the anti-social behaviour group is on 4/12. 3/2 Area has seen a reduction in antisocial behaviour and the security guard is still in post. Officers will continue to monitor. Issue Closed 3/2</p>
25/06/13	<p><u>Entrance Cleaning Interchange Bus Station</u> The entrance to the Interchange Bus Station requires weeding and power washing to tidy the area and improve the overall appearance.</p>	<p>Parks <i>Derek Price</i></p> <p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p>	<p>22/7 The weeds have been sprayed and will be removed once died back. 23/9 Weeds have been sprayed, on schedule for a follow-up visit. 25/11 Works continue to be ongoing. 3/2 Works have been completed. Issue Closed 3/2</p>

08/08/13	<p><u>Car Cruisers</u> <u>ASDA Car Park, Cliff Road</u> The ASDA store Manager has reported that car cruisers are beginning to congregate in the store's car park on a Friday and Saturday evening. This is leading to noise complaints from local residents and large amounts of litter being left in the car park.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>25/11 Following two Police operations with ASDA and a publicity campaign, there have been no further reports of the cruisers. 3/2 Have conducted a few operations and will continue to monitor. ANPR system operating successfully. Issue Closed 3/2</p>
08/08/13	<p><u>Taxi Bay Trial</u> <u>High Street</u> A dedicated taxi bay is being trialled within the High Street. The bay will stretch from the Bingo Hall to Gravel Lane and operate during late night and early evening.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Clive Campbell</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p>	<p>23/9 Have agreed locality. Need to secure funding for trial period before proceeding. 25/11 The trial will not be proceeding due to resource issues. The trial may be considered in readiness for Christmas 2014. 3/2 A Christmas 2014 trial is still anticipated. Issue Closed 3/2</p>
02/10/13	<p><u>Poundstretcher Site</u> <u>High Street</u> 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>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>25/11 Decorative hoarding has been placed around the site to improve the appearance. If the site is vacant for 1-year, the retailer is under no obligation to reoccupy it. It seems likely that Poundstretchers will relocate. 3/2 It is understood that Poundstretchers will be re-opening on the Southern Retail Park. The High Street site should be rebuilt via the owner's insurance, which is still being settled. 7/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>

01/11/13	<p><u>Christmas Event</u> <u>Town Centre</u> Planning is underway for a Christmas event in the town centre, which is scheduled for 30th November & 1st December.</p>	<p>Business Enterprise Support Team <i>Paul Hudson</i></p>	<p>25/11 Planning continues. The Christmas Discount Cards will be distributed at the event to encourage Christmas spend in the town. 3/2 Successful event, which was well received. Issue Closed 3/2</p>
07/11/13	<p><u>Bin Replacement</u> <u>Town Centre</u> Due to the litter bins throughout the town centre looking old and worn, replacements are being considered.</p>	<p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p> <p>Urban Renewal <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p> <p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p>	<p>25/11 Officers are currently assessing what can be achieved with the budget that has been allocated to this project. 3/2 The bins have been ordered from a local supplier and will incorporate the town's branding logo. They will be installed by NCS this financial year.</p>
08/11/13	<p><u>Temporary Grit Bins</u> <u>Town Centre</u> Temporary grit bins will be installed in various locations throughout the town centre in readiness for the winter weather.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>25/11 The grit bins have been installed. 3/2 Works completed. Issue Closed 3/2</p>
11/11/13	<p><u>Christmas Banners</u> <u>Town Centre</u> Lamp post banners are being produced, which will be passed to the Town/Community Councils for installation. The banners will be located at the entrance of each town, with the aim of complementing the Christmas lighting displays.</p>	<p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>25/11 The banners have been delivered to the contractor who erects the Christmas lighting in the town centres. 3/2 Installation was carried out. Issue Closed 3/2</p>

26/11/13	<p><u>Advertising on the Highway</u> <u>Town Centre</u> Officers in Highways have developed a new policy relating to advertising on the Highway, which has been sent to all businesses within the principal town centres.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>3/2 Have taken reports to the TCMG. Policy will hopefully be rolled out within the next 4 weeks. 7/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
18/12/13	<p><u>Homeless People</u> <u>O/S Library, Gordon Road</u> A complaint has been received from staff at Blackwood Library in relation to homeless people sleeping in the doorway overnight. One of the people is violent and aggressive and poses a risk to staff.</p>	<p>Community Safety <i>Kath Peters</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p>	<p>3/2 Arrests have been made as some offences have been reported. The individuals have been signposted to support services, but these have not been utilised. Officers will continue to monitor.</p>
08/01/14	<p><u>Homeless People</u> <u>Rear of High Street</u> A retailer complaint has been received in relation to the lane at the rear of High Street. Homeless people are sleeping at the rear of the old Halifax building in the evenings and rummaging through neighbouring businesses' waste, which is causing a large amount of litter to be strewn across the lane and surrounding area.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Kath Peters</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Smith</i></p>	<p>3/2 As per above. Cleansing team has removed all sharps and waste from the area and will continue to patrol.</p>
15/01/14	<p><u>Planning Application</u> <u>Former Junior School, Pentwyn Road</u> A planning application has been submitted to develop the site of the former junior school on Pentwyn Road.</p>	<p>Development Control <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	<p>3/2 The planning application is for residential use and will be put to the Planning Committee in March. The community garden element of the scheme has been retained and reports will go to the TCMG in due course. 7/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>

27/01/14	<p><u>Smoking & Cigarette Ends</u> <u>Town Centre</u> A complaint has been received from Cllr. Dix in relation to smoking outside public houses in the town centre. A group of smokers outside a pub creates an unpleasant environment for passing pedestrians and an accumulation of cigarette ends.</p>	<p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	<p>3/2 Cleansing Officers are currently looking into this issue.</p>
03/02/14	<p><u>Cinema Development</u> <u>High Street</u> The former Bingo Hall is being converted back to a Cinema by a private, independent operator.</p>	<p>Development Control <i>Tim Stephens</i></p> <p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	
18/02/14	<p><u>Defective Step</u> <u>Hall Street</u> A complaint has been received that one of the blocks has come loose from the steps on Hall Street, which present a potential trip hazard.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	
13/03/14	<p><u>Pot Holes</u> <u>Cliff Road</u> A complaint has been received from the Manager of ASDA that there is a large number of potholes on Cliff Road and the access roundabout to ASDA.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Marcus Lloyd</i></p>	<p>19/3 Following an inspection, the potholes are below 40mm in depth, so will not be repaired at present.</p>