



YSTRAD MYNACH TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, PENALLTA HOUSE ON MONDAY 8TH MARCH 2016 AT 3:15 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Councillors: A. Angel, K. James, M. James, J. A. Pritchard

Together with:

Inspector Muirhead (Gwent Police), C. Mortimer (Clerk)

Also:

A. Highway (Town Centre Manager), S. Wilcox (Assistant Town Centre Manager), A. Dallimore (Team Leader – Urban Renewal & Conservation), P. Hudson (Marketing & Events Manager), A. Jones (clerk)

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor D. T. Davies, Mr W Jeff (Tredomen Allotments Association), Dr M Jorro (Rhymney Valley Music Group).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 3RD NOVEMBER 2015

The previous minutes were taken as read.

4. BUSINESS REPORT YSTRAD MYNACH TOWN CENTRE

Mr Highway presented the report to the group.

Councillor M. James requested a copy of the Town Centre Gazette as he has not received any copies previously. Mr Wilcox will send the member back copies of the Town Centre Gazettes and also check that Cllr M James is on the distribution email list.

The group discussed the data collected by the footfall cameras and commented that data is only recorded at one specific location which was not ideal. Mr Highway advised that the figures for Ystrad Mynach are collected outside Premier Stores and that they have shown an increase.

The Chairman asked if Planning officers can control which businesses set up in the town. Mr Dallimore confirmed checks are carried out but planning has no authority on what businesses open up.

The Chairman asked if the group could promote the Centre for Sporting Excellence possibly with lamp post banners and also promote the town in the Centre.

Mr Highway advised that the Centre would need to pay for the banners but that Mr Wilcox would be happy to meet with the Centre Manager to discuss further. Mr Dallimore advised that such promotion was considered previously and did include information boards and banners, however there is no specific budget to fund this.

5. GO2 MY TOWN WEBSITE REPORT

Mr Wilcox presented the report to the Group and advised that once the website is fully operational a demo will be brought to the group.

6. 'CHOOSE THE HIGH STREET' CHRISTMAS VOUCHER BOOKLET 2015 – ANALYSIS REPORT

Mr Highway presented the report to the group.

Councillor M James stated that he has been approached by individuals who would like to come to the group meetings and asked how they could be included. Mr Highway advised that these groups should write to him and clarified that any group seeking membership would need to be a constituted group and provide a copy of their constitution to him. Councillor James will go back to those members interested in joining the group.

Mr Highway wished to thank Paul Hudson and the events team on their work distributing the Christmas Voucher booklet at the Christmas events and also the Graphic's Team for their design work.

7. UPDATE ON PARKING

Mr Highway read out the following statement from Clive Campbell in traffic management.

'There has been no change in the Council's position on CPR for some years so there is nothing new to report. The issue may be discussed at the next Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee on the 29th March (as part of the car parking review) but it remains to be seen what will be discussed and where this might go.

Inspector Muirhead confirmed that CPR is a matter for the Council to consider.

Councillor M James questioned why the police cannot work with the Authority to issue fines and utilise the Community Safety Wardens.

Inspector Muirhead confirmed that the revenue generated by parking tickets does not go to the police.

Councillor K James confirmed that the Council is looking into CPR but it is only a proposal at the moment.

Councillor K James advised that two reports have gone to Scrutiny. One on civil parking and the one on Community Safety Wardens. A new report will be drafted and is due to go to the next Scrutiny meeting.

The group were advised to look at the report.

8. YSTRAD MYNACH TOWN CENTRE AUDIT REPORT

Mr Highway presented the report to the group. The following items were discussed.

Illegal Parking, Mr Highway wished to thank Inspector Muirhead for deploying officers to the town to consider specific parking complaints.

The group discussed the Christmas market and its success. Councillor M James advised that last year stall holders were running low on stock due to the demand and hoped they would be more prepared for this year's event.

Some retailers have expressed an interest in participating in the market.

Mr Hudson agreed that the event was very successful and it has been good to hear positive feedback from retailers.

Councillor M James informed the group that retailers have expressed an interest in having a summer event and Mr Hudson offered to provide support where possible.

Illegal parking of non-blue badge holders outside Ladbrokes was discussed and Inspector Muirhead asked that any problems be reported back to him.

Councillor M James requested that an item be added to the next TCMG agenda for a report on the events budget for town centres be presented to the next meeting.

Mr Highway confirmed that this would be requested from the manager for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 16:14.

CHAIR