



RISCA TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, PENALLTA HOUSE ON FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2016 AT 2:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councillors:

Councillors: D T Davies (Observer), N George, K James, P Leonard

Together with:

Town Councillors: M Parker (Risca Town), B Hancock (Risca Town) Mr R Campbell (Clerk Town Council)

Also:

Inspector White Gwent Police), A. Highway (Town Centre Development Manager), & A. Jones (Committee Clerk)

1. TO APPOINT A CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

Mr Highway opened the meeting and advised that this item would be deferred until the next meeting as the group was not 'quorate' in line with the Council's committee protocol

2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillors: P Griffiths, P Leonard A Passmore & Mr A Dallimore (Team Leader – Urban Renewal & Conservation)

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 25TH FEBRUARY 2016

The minutes were taken as read

5. 'CHOOSE THE HIGH STREET' STORIES

Mr Highway presented his report to the group.

The group thanked Mr Highway

6. 'CHOOSE THE HIGH STREET' CHRISTMAS VOUCHER BOOKLET

Mr Highway presented his report to the group and showed the group the booklet design.

The group were advised that the booklets would be in production in the next few weeks.

Mr Highway informed the group that retailers are becoming more aware of the scheme as each year passes and already 30 retailers have submitted offers.

The group were advised that the offers received to date appear to be more competitive than in previous years.

Mr Highway was thanked for the report and the hard work of the team.

7. GO2 MY TOWN VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE WEBSITE.

Mr Highway took members on a virtual tour of the Go2 My Town Website and highlighted how the site works and the information available to people interested in setting up new businesses in the town centre.

Mr Highway showed the group how to find the stories for each of the towns on the site.

Mr Highway shared with the group some of the comments of appreciation from retailers featured in the 'Stories' initiative and were grateful of support from the Council

The group thanked Mr Highway

8. UPDATE CUCKOO STATUE

Mr Highway passed on apologies from Mr Dallimore and informed the group that Keep Wales Tidy will continue to monitor the site.

Councillor Parker suggested that the site has not been monitored and is still an eyesore. The group's comments would be passed back to Mr Dallimore for his information.

The group discussed whether there is an alternative site to relocate the cuckoo statue. Mr Highway informed the group that should a suitable location be identified in the future and funding made available, the group would be part of any consultation process.

9. AUDIT

Mr Highway presented the Audit and the following items were raised.

Parking Enforcement. Inspector White confirmed that the police continue to enforce when their resources allow. He was able to report that officers had recently patrolled in Tredegar Street & Moriah Street where a number of tickets were issued.

Councillor Parker asked if a letter to the Council's Traffic Management department would help to highlight the parking issues. Mr Highway requested that Councillor Parker send an email to him which he would pass to the appropriate officer in Traffic Management.

The issue of Bethany Baptist Church's pillar being hit by delivery vehicles to the One Stop store was raised. The group was advised that responsibility for any damage is not the Council's, but rests with the driver of the vehicle. Mr. Wilcox agreed to act as a point of liaison between the Church and One Stop to arrange repair of the pillar and look for a potential solution to the problem.

Mr Highway asked the Inspector to raise issues of anti-social behaviour with his officers.

Issues of broken slats on benches were discussed and Mr Wilcox confirmed that he will raise this with Ms Noden from Parks Services.

Mr Wilcox also confirmed that he will liaise with Ms Noden on arranging for the trees to be trimmed to prevent young people breaking them. He will report back to the group in due course.

Councillor Parker wished to than Mr Headington for the new fence in Cenotaph Garden and Councillor Hancock commented on how the flowers are an improvement on last year's display.

There were no further issues raised.

The meeting closed 14:40.

CHAIR