

BLACKWOOD TOWN CENTRE AUDIT – JUNE 2017

DATE	ISSUE	DEPARTMENT	PROGRESS UPDATE
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>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 No update has been received from the site's owner or agent. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
16/05/14	<p><u>Toilet Block Enhancement</u> <u>High Street</u> At the TCMG, it was agreed that proposals would be developed to try and improve the appearance of the disused toilet block on High Street. Should the proposals be approved, the Area Forum Budget may fund the scheme.</p>	<p>Urban Renewal <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 One last letter is being sent to the owner before a S.215 notice is served. Authority to serve the notice has already been granted. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
18/08/15	<p><u>Condition of Steps</u> <u>R/O Wesley Road Car Park</u> Cllr. Dix has received complaints in relation to the steps leading from Wesley Road car park to Morrison Street. The steps require some repairs to make them easier to traverse.</p>	<p>Parks <i>Mike Headington</i></p> <p>Highways <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 The vegetation in the area has been treated. The outstanding work will be completed and funded from the Area Forum Budget. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>

11/04/16	<p><u>Antisocial Behaviour</u> <u>Bus Station/The Market Place</u></p> <p>At the TCIG, it was noted that there are ongoing problems in the bus station and the surrounding area in relation to antisocial behaviour linked to the sale and/or consumption of alcohol in the area.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Neesam</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Paul Wallen</i></p> <p>Licensing <i>Myra McSherry</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 The situation is greatly improved with only 3 incidents reported in January. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
27/04/16	<p><u>Repaint Carriageway Lines Denoting Parking Bay Restrictions</u> <u>High Street</u></p> <p>Following resurfacing works, the old lines on the carriageway are now visible and the new ones are work and broken.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Neesam</i></p> <p>Highways <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 The re-lining work is ongoing. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
27/04/16	<p><u>Proposed Amendment of Traffic Order</u> <u>High Street</u></p> <p>Following a site meeting instigated by the Police, it was agreed to review the Traffic Order and in particular consider the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add yellow chevrons to the loading bays; • Change the shared loading bay & taxi rank O/S <i>The New Foresters</i> to a loading bay; • Remove the loading bay O/S <i>Flavour Vapour & Barclays Bank</i>. 	<p>Transportation <i>Dean Smith</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Neesam</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>13/12 The TRO is due to be advertised in January 2017. 14/2 The TRO process is progressing. Issue Closed 14/2</p>
27/04/16	<p><u>Repainting Yellow Kerb Lines</u> <u>Bridge Street/High Street</u></p> <p>The lines in this area need to be added to the kerbs outside the shops opposite the junction with Bridge Street to deter illegal parking.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Gavin Barry</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Neesam</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 The re-lining work is ongoing. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>

06/05/16	<p><u>Former Guide Hall High Street</u> The former Guide Hall behind High Street is in a poor condition and people appear to have gained entry. There is evidence of drinking and drug use within the building.</p>	<p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p> <p>Environmental Health <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Paul Wallen</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Neesam</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 The final outstanding utility will be capped off shortly and demolition will proceed in due course. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
23/05/16	<p><u>Car Cruisers Road Closure High Street</u> Following the extensive car cruiser issue, which occurred in the town a number of years ago, a full road closure was implemented on High Street every Thursday night by the Police. In recent weeks this has not been implemented leading to vehicles once again using the street, sounding their horns and playing loud music. This behaviour has led to a number of complaints from residents to local Councillors.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Neesam</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 The situation continues to be monitored, but there no longer seems to be a problem.</p>
06/07/16	<p><u>Deep Clean Bus Station</u> Cllr. Dix requested a deep clean of the bus station ceiling and lighting following complaints from residents.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 Options of how to complete the cleaning at height are currently being considered.</p>

27/09/16	<p><u>Rubbish & Weeds</u> <u>Interchange Bus Station</u> Cllr Dix has received a complaint that the area around the station is in need of weeding and a litter pick.</p>	<p>Transportation <i>Dean Smith</i></p> <p>Parks <i>Mike Headington</i></p> <p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>13/12 The weeds have been treated and removed. 14/2 The weeds have been treated and the rubbish removed. Issue Closed 14/2</p>
03/10/16	<p><u>Surface Issues – Historical Cobbles</u> <u>Lane Leading from Flour Mill to Cefn Road</u> The lane has been an ongoing maintenance issue for a number of years. It is unclear if the cobbles are of any historical value but due to their unsafe condition Highways intervention is now required.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 The cobbles have been dug up and are being re-laid and repointed by stone masons. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
20/10/16	<p><u>Cleaning of Electronic Signs</u> <u>Town Centre</u> The “road closed” electronic signs at each end of the High Street have become badly weathered. They require cleaning to increase their visibility.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 No update could be provided. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
12/12/16	<p><u>Works to Unit 23 (Former Somerfield Store)</u> <u>The Market Place Shopping Centre</u> The owners of the Centre have instigated a series of works to the building in order to attract a new tenant.</p>	<p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p> <p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>13/12 Work has commenced on site with a roofing contractor. A planning application is expected for a change of use. Details of the new Town Centre Loans Scheme have been passed on an expression of interest sought. 14/2 Planning permission has been granted and work on the site is due to start shortly. Issue Closed 14/2</p>

12/12/16	<p><u>Letting of Former Store 21 Building High Street</u> The closure of Store 21 retail shop has left one of the largest retail floor spaces in the town vacant.</p>	<p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p> <p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</p> <p>14/2 The unit is currently being used as a charity shop on a pop-up lease. 28/2 An update was provided to the TCMG.</p>
03/01/17	<p><u>Littering & Accumulation of Rubbish High Street Car Park</u> Cllr. Rees noted that the High Street car park near Hall Street has a lot of litter dumped within, which is now beginning to accumulate.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p> <p>Transportation <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	<p>14/2 The area has been cleaned. Issue Closed 14/2</p>
31/01/17	<p><u>Spitting on Cash Machines Town Centre</u> Local Members have been made aware that young people in the town centre are spitting on the ATM machines throughout the town centre. This is making them very unpleasant to use, which has led to complaints.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Neesam</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Paul Wallen</i></p>	<p>14/2 The bank staff were visited and asked to clean the machines. There have been no further incidents reported. Issue Closed 14/2</p>
21/02/17	<p><u>Litter Bin Fires Lane off Cliff Road</u> Cllr. Dix has received complaints from local residents that young people are taking large waste bins from the rear of shop units in High Street to the lane that leads to the river bridge and setting fire to them.</p>	<p>Police <i>Ins Neesam</i></p> <p>Community Safety <i>Paul Wallen</i></p>	<p>22/2 Following a site meeting, the feasibility of installing a CCTV camera in the vicinity will be investigated.</p>

28/03/17	<p><u>Retail Thefts</u> <u>Town Centre</u></p> <p>Following complaints by retailers of problems using the 101 number to report retail thefts to Gwent Police, Town Centre Management have organised a meeting for retailers to meet with officers to discuss the matter on 6th April. Store managers throughout the town centre have been invited to attend.</p>	<p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p> <p>Police <i>Ins Neesam</i></p>	
08/05/17	<p><u>Former Red Lion Site</u> <u>High Street</u></p> <p>The site is under consideration for a new scheme which would involve demolishing the existing building and constructing new houses.</p>	<p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	28/3 A Planning Application (17/0230/ FULL) has been received for the site.
28/04/17	<p><u>Flyposting</u> <u>Town Centre</u></p> <p>A complaint has been received in relation to flyposting in the town centre, particularly circus posters in the former Birmingham Balti.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Gavin Barry</i></p> <p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p> <p>Regulatory Planning <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	
28/04/17	<p><u>“Grot Spot” Cleaning</u> <u>Dragon Circle, Blackwood</u></p> <p>The area next to ASDA known as the “Dragon Circle” is in need of pressure washing and litter picking.</p>	<p>Cleansing <i>Tony White</i></p>	

30/05/17	<p><u>Broken Street Sign</u> <u>High Street Junction Retail Park</u> The sign at the location appears to have been subject to a road traffic accident and is in need of repair</p>	<p>Highways <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	
30/05/17	<p><u>Broken Bench</u> <u>High Street Junction Retail Park</u> The bench at the location has missing slats and is in need of repair.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	
06/06/17	<p><u>Wheelie Bin Blocking the Pavement</u> <u>High Street OS Former Poundstretchers Site</u> A complaint has been received that a large green wheelie bin is chained to the hoarding of the former Poundstretchers and is blocking the footway.</p>	<p>Town Centre Management <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>6/6 A site visit confirmed that the bin belonged to Lui's Place. The owner was asked to remove it and has arranged a collection from the waste carrier for tomorrow.</p>
06/06/17	<p><u>Safety Railing OS Blackwood Miners</u> <u>High Street</u> The base of the railings has corroded and they are in need of replacement.</p>	<p>Highways <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	