

## BLACKWOOD TOWN CENTRE AUDIT – FEBRUARY 2018

DATE	ISSUE	DEPARTMENT	PROGRESS UPDATE
02/10/13	<p><b><u>Poundstretcher Site High Street</u></b>                      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><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>19/9 An update was provided to the TCMG.                      26/9 The insurance claim still hasn't been settled, but there is an interested tenant for when the building is rebuilt.                      21/11 The insurance claim is still unsettled, but the owner does have a new tenant interested in the property when rebuilt.</p>
16/05/14	<p><b><u>Toilet Block Enhancement High Street</u></b>                      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><b>Urban Renewal</b>  <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>19/9 An update was provided to the TCMG.                      26/9 S.215 notice has been served and works are currently underway.                      21/11 The owner has been on site and carried out some cleansing.  <b>Issue Closed 21/11</b></p>

11/04/16	<p><b><u>Antisocial Behaviour</u></b>  <b><u>Bus Station/The Market Place</u></b>  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><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins Drayton</i></p> <p><b>Community Safety</b>  <i>Paul Wallen</i></p> <p><b>Licensing</b>  <i>Lee Morgan</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>26/9 Calls continue to be received and CCTV operators are recording incidents. The problem-solving group will be reconvened shortly to discuss issues on site.  21/11 Calls need to be logged with the Police via 101 or 999 if urgent. A long term solution is being sought via antisocial behaviour legislation as some key perpetrators have returned to the bus station.</p>
23/05/16	<p><b><u>Car Cruisers Road Closure</u></b>  <b><u>High Street</u></b>  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><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins Drayton</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>26/9 There is no longer an issue from a Police perspective.  21/11 There was a recent incident with cars parking in the ALDI car park. The situation will be monitored over the coming weeks.</p>
12/12/16	<p><b><u>Letting of Former Store 21 Building</u></b>  <b><u>High Street</u></b>  The closure of Store 21 retail shop has left one of the largest retail floor spaces in the town vacant.</p>	<p><b>Regulatory Planning</b>  <i>Tim Stephens</i></p> <p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>26/9 The owner continues to look for a long-term tenant.  21/11 The owner is keen to secure a long-term tenant for the building and will be discussing options for the building with officers.</p>

21/02/17	<p><b><u>Litter Bin Fires</u></b>  <b><u>Lane off Cliff Road</u></b>  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><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins Drayton</i></p> <p><b>Community Safety</b>  <i>Paul Wallen</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>19/9 An update was provided to the TCMG.  26/9 This is continuing to be a problem and the Police and CSWs continue to monitor and patrol the area. Commercial bin storage areas are being considered, but residential bins are also being burnt in the area.  21/11 Monitoring is ongoing. Although all CCBC-issued commercial bins are secure, bins from other contractors are not. The last report was on bonfire night and the incident was caught on CCTV.</p>
08/05/17	<p><b><u>Former Red Lion Site</u></b>  <b><u>High Street</u></b>  The site is under consideration for a new scheme which would involve demolishing the existing building and constructing new houses.</p>	<p><b>Regulatory Planning</b>  <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>19/9 An update was provided to the TCMG.  26/9 Planning permission has been granted for flats on the site.  21/11 Commencement of work on the site has been delayed due to problems with the surface water drainage design. Work is now due to start in early 2018.</p>
28/04/17	<p><b><u>Flyposting</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  A complaint has been received in relation to flyposting in the town centre, particularly circus posters in the former Birmingham Balti.</p>	<p><b>Highways</b>  <i>Gavin Barry</i></p> <p><b>Cleansing</b>  <i>Tony White</i></p> <p><b>Regulatory Planning</b>  <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	<p>13/6 Officers continue to look at the issue and remedy where possible.  26/9 Nothing can be done from a Planning Enforcement perspective in relation to posters displayed inside a building.  21/11 All remaining posters remain inside private buildings, so no action can be taken.  <b>Issue Closed 21/11</b></p>

28/04/17	<p><b><u>“Grot Spot” Cleaning</u></b>  <b><u>Dragon Circle, Blackwood</u></b>  The area next to ASDA known as the “Dragon Circle” is in need of pressure washing and litter picking.</p>	<p><b>Cleansing</b>  <i>Tony White</i></p>	<p>13/6 The work is on a forward work programme.  26/9 Some work has been done on the site. A deeper clean will be carried out in due course.  21/11 The area is litter-picked every day. A programme of works such as grubbing out will be looked at over the winter period.</p>
22/06/17	<p><b><u>Bin Storage</u></b>  <b><u>Gravel Lane</u></b>  A complaint was made to Cllr. Dix in relation to bins being stored directly opposite the café on Gravel Lane, rather than using the designated bin storage area.</p>	<p><b>Cleansing</b>  <i>Tony White</i></p> <p><b>Highways</b>  <i>Gavin Barry</i></p> <p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>26/9 The situation continues to be monitored.  21/11 The problem has now been addressed.  <b>Issue Closed 21/11</b></p>
26/06/17	<p><b><u>Artwork Maintenance</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  Three pieces of artwork in the town centre have been identified for general maintenance. The “Singing Tree” and “Strata” will be cleaned and a damaged stainless steel leaf on the “Torc Gateway” will be repaired.</p>	<p><b>Urban Renewal</b>  <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	<p>26/9 The work is ongoing.  21/11 Some work has been completed, but the programme will be ongoing over several months.</p>
17/07/17	<p><b><u>Condition of Bus Station Toilets</u></b>  <b><u>Interchange Bus Station</u></b>  A complaint has been received from the Town Council in relation to the condition of the toilets on Carnival Day.</p>	<p><b>Cleansing</b>  <i>Tony White</i></p>	<p>26/9 Officers are working with the Town Council to consider a proposal for an attendant.  21/11 Incidents need to be reported to the Plice via 101. There has been very little damage recently.</p>

21/09/17	<p><b><u>Relay Taxis Parking Illegally High Street</u></b>  Local Cllrs. Have received a number of complaints that vehicles operated by <i>Relay Taxis</i> are parking on the pavement outside their office in High Street and also illegally in the loading bay outside <i>Poundworld</i>.</p>	<p><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins Drayton</i></p>	
21/09/17	<p><b><u>Feeding of Pigeons The Market Place</u></b>  Businesses have complained that a lady visits the area each day carrying a large sack of grain and then scatters it on the floor attracting a large number of pigeons, which cause a nuisance.</p>	<p><b>Community Safety</b>  <i>Paul Wallen</i></p>	
12/10/17	<p><b><u>Dog Nuisance Cheetah Print, High Street</u></b>  A complaint has been received in relation to dogs that roam freely at the rear of the store and sometimes act aggressively to passing pedestrians.</p>	<p><b>Environmental Health</b>  <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	
17/10/17	<p><b><u>Civil Parking Enforcement Town Centre</u></b>  Following the decision by Gwent Police to transfer on-street parking enforcement duties to the local authorities across the Gwent area, Council officers are working alongside colleagues in neighbouring authorities and Gwent Police to explore the various options available. Any proposals will be subject to a wider consultation with Members prior to seeking Cabinet confirmation and Council approval.</p>	<p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	<p>11/10 An update was provided to the TCMG.  21/11 A briefing note will be going to Cabinet and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee in December.</p>

26/07/17	<p><b><u>Vandalism</u></b>  <b><u>St. Margaret's Church, High Street</u></b>  There have been several acts of vandalism in relation to St. Margaret's Church over recent months causing significant damage.</p>	<p><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins Drayton</i></p>	<p>26/9 Police continue to monitor.  21/11 Monitoring is ongoing.</p>
26/07/17	<p><b><u>Missing Manhole Cover</u></b>  <b><u>O/S Tidal's Store, High Street</u></b>  During a heavy storm, water pushed a manhole cover out of its housing. When the water pressure eased, the cover fell into the chamber.</p>	<p><b>Highways</b>  <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	<p>26/9 The cover has been replaced, but a drainage improvement scheme for the area is currently being implemented.  21/11 The improvement scheme has now been completed.  <b>Issue Closed 21/11</b></p>
12/09/17	<p><b><u>Traffic Proposals</u></b>  <b><u>Bridge Street</u></b>  Residents of Bridge Street have approached the Authority with a number of proposals to assist them as residents of the area, which officers are considering and investigating.</p>	<p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	<p>21/11 The proposals have been considered but would be very difficult to implement at the moment. The proposals could be considered as part of a wider regeneration scheme in the future when funding is available.  <b>Issue Closed 21/11</b></p>
11/10/17	<p><b><u>Broken Glazing</u></b>  <b><u>Interchange Bus Station</u></b>  Cllr. Dix noted that a pane of glass at the Interchange Bus Station had been smashed in an act of vandalism.</p>	<p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	<p>21/11 All damaged glass has now been repaired.  <b>Issue Closed 21/11</b></p>

13/10/17	<p><b><u>Homeless Person</u></b>  <b><u>Gravel Lane</u></b>  Reports have been received of a person sleeping rough behind The Market Place units, just off Gravel Lane.</p>	<p><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins O'Keefe</i></p> <p><b>Community Safety</b>  <i>Paul Wallen</i></p> <p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	21/11 The individual has been approached by support services, but claims to be happy and refuses to engage.
18/10/17	<p><b><u>Accumulation of Rubbish</u></b>  <b><u>Pentwyn Road</u></b>  Cllr. Dix received a complaint in relation to the accumulation of rubbish following the refurbishment of the Italian restaurant on Pentwyn Road.</p>	<p><b>Environmental Health</b>  <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	21/11 The area has been cleaned. Issue Closed 21/11
21/11/17	<p><b><u>Additional Pedestrian Crossing Point</u></b>  <b><u>High Street</u></b>  A request has been received from the Town Council for the installation of an additional pedestrian crossing to be installed near Blackwood Miners' Institute.</p>	<p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	
10/01/18	<p><b><u>Litter Complaint</u></b>  <b><u>High Street</u></b>  Cllr. Farina-Childs received a complaint in relation to a large amount of litter outside <i>Yummies</i> kebab shop over the Christmas period.</p>	<p><b>Environmental Health</b>  <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	
10/01/18	<p><b><u>Dog Fouling</u></b>  <b><u>Hall Street</u></b>  Cllr. Etheridge has received numerous complaints from a resident of Hall Street about repeated dog fouling outside his property.</p>	<p><b>Environmental Health</b>  <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	

11/01/18	<p><b><u>Assault of Homeless Person</u></b>  <b><u>The Flour Mill, High Street</u></b>  Complaints have been received following the physical assault of a homeless man by door staff of <i>The Flour Mill</i> that was recorded and posted to social media.</p>	<p><b>Licensing</b>  <i>Lee Morgan</i></p> <p><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins O'Keefe</i></p>	
16/01/18	<p><b><u>Noise Complaint</u></b>  <b><u>ASDA, Cliff Road</u></b>  Cllr. Dix has received a complaint from a resident who lives near the rear of ASDA. There is a temporary freezer unit in the rear goods yard that is powered by a very noisy generator that causes disturbance in the evenings.</p>	<p><b>Environmental Health</b>  <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	
31/01/18	<p><b><u>Accumulation of Rubbish</u></b>  <b><u>Lui's Plaice, High Street</u></b>  Due to a lack of bin storage area, the owner of <i>Lui's Plaice</i> is storing rubbish at the rear of the property, which is unacceptable, especially due to the waste being food.</p>	<p><b>Environmental Health</b>  <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	