

## BLACKWOOD TOWN CENTRE AUDIT – FEBRUARY 2019

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>13/2 Insurance negotiations are ongoing.            20/3 An update was provided to the TCMG.            6/6 The insurance settlement is still outstanding.            11/9 The site is now being marketed as a 'clean' site.            6/11 The agent reported that there is limited interest although the site is competitively priced.            13/11 Update at TCMG</p>
11/04/16	<p><b><u>Antisocial Behaviour 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>6/6 There is a new owner of the café and this has led to a decrease in problems. A new reporting system is also being implemented.            11/9 ASB and damage has decreased since the new Café has opened and the toilets are being kept clean.            6/11 ASB situation continues to improve.</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>13/2 The situation continues to be monitored.  6/6 There have been no reports of car cruisers for some time.  11/9 No recent reports from the public or police.  6/11 Local members requested that the issue remains on the audit, although there are no reports of car cruisers.</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>13/2 The current tenants are on a short-term lease while the owner seeks to secure long-term tenants.  6/6 Dialogue continues with the owner and agent to find a new tenant.  11/9 The owner is still seeking a new tenant  6/11 The owner is optimistic of acquiring a new tenant.</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>6/6 An application to discharge the conditions attached to the planning application has been received.  11/9 Demolition has began, still outstanding issue with drainage.  6/11 Pobl are awaiting their drainage strategy to be approved.  13/11 Update at TCMG.</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>Ian Jones</i></p>	<p><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>13/2 The area will be cleaned as part of the Big Spring Clean campaign in early March.  6/6 This has been added to the work programme.  11/9 Benches have been re-sited, area requires cleaning.  6/11 Area Cleaned.  <b>Issue Closed 6/11</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><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>13/2 The programme of works continues.  6/6 Some of the artwork has been cleaned, but this is an ongoing long-term programme of work to artwork across the County Borough.  11/9 Some pieces have been vandalised and will be repaired.  6/11 A small budget has been identified to undertake repairs.</p>
17/10/17	<p><b><u>Civil Parking Enforcement</u></b>  <b><u>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><b>PLEASE SEE PREVIOUS AUDITS FOR A FULL HISTORY OF THIS ISSUE</b></p> <p>6/11 The Council will continue to work towards an April start date, however Gwent Police may finish enforcement duties earlier on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018 and are keen for all Gwent Authorities to start CPE on the same day.  13/11 Update at TCMG.</p>

16/04/18	<p><b><u>Taxi Rank Highways Issues</u></b>  <b><u>Bus Station/Gordon Road</u></b>  Cllr. Farina-Childs has received complaints about the number of taxis that are accumulating outside the Taxi Rank on Gordon Road. The taxis are encroaching on the entrances to businesses opposite the bus station and queuing on Gordon Road.</p>	<p><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins Drayton</i></p> <p><b>Licensing</b>  <i>Lee Morgan</i></p>	<p>6/6 Double yellow lines need to be repainted in the area, which will follow forthcoming resurfacing. When the lines are in place, the Police will visit the offending businesses to discuss the issue. Enforcement will then follow.  11/9 Police liaising with Taxi Operators.  6/11 Officers await completion of TRO works.</p>
06/06/18	<p><b><u>Relocation of Noticeboard</u></b>  <b><u>Bus Station</u></b>  At the TCIG it was reported that the noticeboard within the bus station will be moved as it is currently causing a CCTV blind spot.</p>	<p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	<p>11/9 Works have been instructed.  6/11 Works undertaken.  <b>Issue Closed 6/11</b></p>
04/07/18	<p><b><u>Pruning of Tree</u></b>  <b><u>O/S Blackwood Miners' Institute, High Street</u></b>  The branches of a tree growing near Blackwood Miners' Institute are obscuring the venue's signage, so need trimming back.</p>	<p><b>Parks</b>  <i>Mike Headington</i></p>	<p>11/9 Pruning scheduled.  6/11 Works undertaken.  <b>Issue Closed 6/11</b></p>
23/07/18	<p><b><u>Cleansing Issues</u></b>  <b><u>High Street</u></b>  Cllr. Farina-Childs has received complaints about the condition of the pavement outside <i>The Porters</i> and some of the take away establishments in the High Street. The Cleansing team will look to target resources in order to improve these areas.</p>	<p><b>Cleansing</b>  <i>Ian Jones</i></p>	<p>11/9 Area targeted for a deep clean.  6/11 A small pedestrian sweeper will be used in these areas.</p>
19/08/18	<p><b><u>Litter Bins Blocking Fire Exit</u></b>  <b><u>Wesley Road / High Street</u></b>  Cllr. Farina-Childs has received complaints from a business that CCBC waste bins, used by another business, are being placed in front of the fire exit of their premises.</p>	<p><b>Cleansing</b>  <i>Ian Jones</i></p> <p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	<p>11/9 Investigations on site by Cleansing Officers.  6/11 Additional bins to be provided.  <b>Issue Closed 6/11</b></p>

17/09/18	<p><b><u>Litter Pick / Weeding</u></b>  <b><u>Interchange Bus Station</u></b>  Cllr. Dix has received complaints about the condition of the paths leading to the bus station which need weeding and litter picking.</p>	<p><b>Parks</b>  <i>Mike Headington</i></p> <p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	6/11 No update.
17/09/18	<p><b><u>Preachers Bar Glass Complaint</u></b>  <b><u>Hall Street</u></b>  Cllr. Farina-Childs has received complaints about empty beer glasses from patrons of Preachers Bar being smashed on the steps at Hall Street causing a danger to users.</p>	<p><b>Licensing</b>  <i>Lee Morgan</i></p> <p><b>Police</b>  <i>Ins Drayton</i></p>	6/11 Officers have given suitable advice to the Licensee. <b>Issue Closed 6/11</b>
08/09/10	<p><b><u>Grit Bin Provision</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  Prior to the onset of winter the Highway operations team will visit the town centre and ensure that the grit bins are in place and topped up with a fresh supply of grit.</p>	<p><b>Highways</b>  <i>Gavin Barry</i></p>	6/11 Officers will check and replenish supplies in the next few weeks prior to the winter weather.
24/10/18	<p><b><u>Artwork Maintenance</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  As part of the ongoing maintenance of artwork pieces in the town the 'Tower of Hands' and 'The Lantern' need to be cleaned and have vegetation removed from their bases.</p>	<p><b>Urban Renewal</b>  <i>Allan Dallimore</i></p>	6/11 A small budget has been identified to undertake the work.
13/11/18	<p><b><u>Market Place Redevelopment</u></b>  <b><u>Town Centre</u></b>  A new scheme to redevelop The Market Place Shopping Centre is being considered by the owners. In the draft proposals a new artesian market would complement a new residential scheme on the site.</p>	<p><b>Regulatory Planning</b>  <i>Tim Stephens</i></p>	Pre application discussions have been held with Council's Development Control officers. 13/11 The developer presented an outline plan and visuals to the TCMG.

11/12/18	<p><b><u>Cleansing Issues</u></b>  <b><u>The Pier Head High Street</u></b>  A request has been made by Cllr Farina-Childs for some extra support with cleaning the area OS the shops at the Pier Head.</p>	<p><b>Cleansing</b>  <i>Ian Jones</i></p>	
07/01/19	<p><b><u>Pedestrian Crossing</u></b>  <b><u>High Street</u></b>  The lights sequence on the crossing OS the former Post Office is faulty and in need of repair.</p>	<p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	
07/01/19	<p><b><u>Litter McDonalds, KFC</u></b>  <b><u>Northern retail Park</u></b>  Complaints have been received reference litter being dropped and accumulating in the vicinity of the fast food outlets.</p>	<p><b>Environmental Health</b>  <i>Lyndon Ross</i></p>	
16/01/19	<p><b><u>Litter Issues</u></b>  <b><u>Blackwood Retail Park</u></b>  Cllr Dix has received complaints concerning litter on the banking and steps at Blackwood Retail Park adjacent to Cliff Road.</p>	<p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	
23/01/19	<p><b><u>Homeless Persons</u></b>  <b><u>Retail Park OS Former Poundworld</u></b>  Reports have been received that a homeless couple are rough sleeping at the location.</p>	<p><b>Town Centre Management</b>  <i>Andrew Highway</i></p>	
23/01/19	<p><b><u>Biff Bins Left in Parking Spaces</u></b>  <b><u>High Street Car Park</u></b>  Complaints have been received that waste bins are being left in disabled parking spaces in the car park.</p>	<p><b>Cleansing</b>  <i>Ian Jones</i></p> <p><b>Transportation</b>  <i>Dean Smith</i></p>	

01/02/19	<b><u>Missing Slabs on Steps</u></b> <b><u>Blackwood Retail Park</u></b> Cllr Dix has received complaints concerning missing slabs on the steps which lead up from Cliff Road to Blackwood Retail Park.	<b>Town Centre Management</b> <i>Andrew Highway</i>	
05/02/19	<b><u>Pigeon Faeces on the Floor</u></b> <b><u>Blackwood Retail Park</u></b> Cllr Etheridge has received a complaint from a resident about the amount of pigeon faeces which is deposited on the paving outside the vacant units on the retail park,	<b>Town Centre Management</b> <i>Andrew Highway</i>	