



BRENTWOOD TOWN CENTRE RENAISSANCE GROUP MEETING

17TH JULY 2013

PRESENT:

Renaissance Group:

Nick Abbott	NA	BT
Michael Hardy (Vice-chairman)	MHar	Brentwood Resident
Mike Hawkins	MHaw	Chamber of Commerce
Cllr Alan Jefcoate	AJ	Federation of Small Businesses
Dominique Keogh	DK	Essex County Council
Cllr Mike Le-Surf	ML-S	Brentwood Borough Council
	LMcK	Brentwood Borough Council
Cllr Philip Mynott	PM	Brentwood Borough Council
Sue Page	SP	Crown Street Trader
Cllr Mark Reed	MR	Chairman, Town Centre Management, Community and Localism Panel BBC
Kaye Thurgood	KT	Shenfield Trader
Sue Winton	SW	Manager, Baytree Centre

Support Group:

Kim Anderson	KA	Brentwood Borough Council
Jennifer Candler	JC	Brentwood Borough Council
Ashley Culverwell	AC	Brentwood Borough Council
Jean Sharp	JS	Brentwood Borough Council

APOLOGIES:

Steve Boyle, Cllr Roger Hirst, Cllr Louise McKinlay and Julien Pritchard

		Action
1.	Welcome and introductions: MHar opened the meeting and welcomed all present.	
2.	Appointment of RG Chair: Following NA's decision to step down as Chair of the RG, no nominations had been received therefore a wider search was to be undertaken.	

3.	<p>Variation in the order of the agenda - William Hunter Way Update: JC advised that progress was being made by the developers and in legal matters. The disabled access group was supportive of proposals that had been made relating to the development. A report would be made at Ordinary Council.</p> <p>Other planning matters:</p> <p>LDP consultation – 24.7. to 2.10.2013: JC brought to the Group's attention the importance of responding to the consultation and requested the Traders Group be advised at their 8.8.2013 meeting.</p> <p>Crossrail: JC had meeting arranged for 19.7.2013. No timescale had been received in relation to Shenfield Station.</p> <p>The possibility of a Park and Stride car park was being considered.</p> <p>KT asked that residents and traders be updated with regard to proposals. AC reminded the Group of the community notice board in Shenfield where relevant information could be posted.</p> <p>The situation regarding waiting space for taxis was causing concern and JC agreed to bring to a future RG meeting a design appraisal which included a tunnel arrangement which would address this issue.</p> <p>Action: JC to bring design appraisal to future RG meeting.</p> <p>KT believed that passenger figures quoted by Crossrail related to 2010 and requested more up to date numbers be collated. JC advised that studies were being updated but agreed to raise the issue at the 19.7.2013 meeting.</p> <p>Action: JC to raise concerns at 19.7.2013 meeting.</p> <p>Concern was expressed regarding applications for large extensions to shops and licences being requested for longer opening hours in the High Street. . JC advised that this type of issue could be raised through the LDP consultation to inform future policy.</p> <p>Concern was also expressed regarding the major cable works being undertaken which was badly affecting traffic in Shenfield and throughout Brentwood. This was a highways matter, therefore within the remit of ECC.</p> <p>Action: AC agreed to inform KP and to ask ECC for better information to give to residents and traders</p>	<p>JC</p> <p>JC</p> <p>AC</p>
4.	<p>Minutes of the 17.4.2013 meeting and matters arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RG Terms of Reference The main change in the T o R was to para 8.2 – where the workplan and bid for funding from the RG would be submitted to the Council as part of the Council's budget cycle and funding process. 	

<p>Several RG members were unhappy with this approach and NA requested consideration of the revised T o R be included on the agenda for the 4.9.2013 meeting.</p>	
<p>Action: AC agreed to reconsider wording and consult with new RG Chair.</p>	AC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress testing for lamp columns KA requested confirmation of lamp columns under consideration and was advised they were in Shenfield and Warley Hill. 	KA
<p>Action: KA to progress.</p>	KA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative Resource Streams It had been previously agreed that a separate RG meeting would be arranged to consider alternative funding schemes. 	JS
<p>Action: Meeting arrangements to be made.</p>	JS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Street Paving Works ECC had advised that the repairs in the High Street were not considered a priority at present. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crown Street Works SP advised that Crown Street traders had been told work would begin in mid-August. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Charter Update MR advised that two charters had been identified and translation of these was being pursued. Dialogue with Havering Council was continuing. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pigeons around the High Street Ruins A quote had been circulated with the agenda for trapping and removing the pigeons but it was considered that this would only be a temporary measure as they would re-colonise the ruins. 	
<p>People feeding the pigeons was a problem and AC proposed a comms article should be prepared to highlight the problem.</p>	
<p>Action: Stuart Haigh to liaise with Comms.</p>	SH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trees in Shenfield 	
<p>KT advised that the crab apples had begun to drop and the pavement was slippery, therefore needed cleaning regularly.</p>	
<p>MHar advised that pruning the trees was planned.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Boards The ECC policy regarding A Boards was circulated with the agenda and AC advised that a consultation was proposed with stakeholders to consider if a zero-tolerance policy (ie no A Boards allowed) or the ECC policy should be 	

	<p>adopted in Brentwood. A report would be made to Members taking into account the consultation outcome.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Frog windows SP confirmed she had cleaned the windows. 	
5.	<p>Alfred Road: AC reported that an impasse had been reached between relevant parties and legal and financial issues were continuing to be considered to move the process on.</p> <p>Action: AC to monitor the situation and report back to 4.9.2013 RG meeting.</p>	AC
6.	<p>RG Workplan for 2013/14 and future years: AC proposed a sub-group be set up to consider current and future projects. MHaw, SP, KT and MHar volunteered to form the group.</p> <p>Action: JS to liaise with sub-group members to arrange meeting.</p>	JS
7.	<p>Feedback /Updates on recent and future projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Love your market event (18-25.5.13): AC reported that Eric Pickles had attended and had been impressed. AC thought the event had created a lively atmosphere in the High Street. • Love Brentwood Local Food Festival 2014: SP reported that she, Lisa Stroulger and Lois King had been working on the project. • Kings Road/Warley Hill website: MR reported the website had been set up and needed to be linked into the BBC site. Traders needed to provide their details for inclusion. • 'Made in Brentwood': No further information was available. <p>Action: Update to be given at 4.9.2013 meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Awards: It was decided that no further action be taken. 	SH
8.	<p>Local Projects Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brook Street: The area had been cleaned up and it was proposed to put in some plants in the Spring. • Lion and Lamb Court: PM reported that no progress had been made regarding the problem of vehicles parking at the site. A bike rack had been damaged in order to allow access for vehicles. <p>It was suggested that a temporary solution be effected – eg moving a planter to the area.</p> <p>Action: PM would continue investigating land ownership with BBC officers.</p> <p>MHar requested an update on action being taken in relation to an ice cream van illegally parking and trading in the High Street. AC advised that parking tickets had been given and police action was sought.</p>	PM
9.	<p>Christmas Lights Update: KA advised that the 2013 Lighting Up event would take place on 30.11.2013. She was to meet with a lighting contractor to discuss Shenfield and Brentwood lights and intended to discuss funding for Shenfield with KT.</p>	

	NA suggested that KT approached RG for funding Shenfield's Christmas lights at a future meeting.	
10.	<p>AOB:</p> <p>(a) PM advised that Brentwood Arts Council had requested to make a presentation at the 4.9.2013 RG meeting. Action: JS to liaise with PM to arrange and include on the agenda for a future meeting.</p> <p>(b) NA was formally thanked by the RG for his contribution as Chair of the Group during his tenure.</p> <p>NA thanked the RG members for their support over the years.</p>	JS
11.	<p>Dates of future meetings: Renaissance Group:</p> <p>Proposed dates for 2013 meetings were all Wednesdays and meetings would commence at 4.30pm in the Committee Rooms: 4th September 23rd October 11th December Traders Group Consultation Meeting is scheduled for 7th November 2013, 6pm until 8pm in the Committee Rooms</p>	