

PAIGNTON RESORT TEAM MEETING
Wednesday 15th October 2003 - Apollo Cinema, Paignton

Present:

Pet Curnow (PC)	Paignton Resort Team Co-ordinator
Richard Stevens (R.Stevens)	Paignton Pier
Cllr. Mike James (MJ)	Torbay Council
Cllr. Ian Fenton (IF)	Torbay Council
Ron Thompson (THA)	Torbay Hospitality Assoc.
Tony Moss (TM)	Paignton Historical Society
Kirstin Tripp (KT)	Apollo Cinema
Richard Taylor (RT)	Torbay Council
James O'Dwyer (JO)	Chairman Paignton Chamber of Trade
Insp Mark Backhouse (MB)	Devon & Cornwall Police
Ron Sharpe (R.Sharpe)	Winner St. Traders Association

Apologies:

PC Vicky Coombes	Devon & Cornwall Police
John Fellowes	Paignton Chamber of Trade
Chris Beer	Paignton Zoo
Keith Foster	Paignton Harbour Master

Minutes of the meeting held on 10th September 2003 were agreed

1	POLICE MATTERS	ACTION
a)	MB told the group of police activity taking place that day and apologised that PC Ben Downing, Vicky Coombes and Darren Harvey could not attend as they were all on special duty.	
b)	Paignton had become the centre for certain criminal activities due in part to the number of flats / bed-sits with private landlords. The police had a very good working relationship with the Housing Associations and Torbay Council but found it difficult to get the same level of co-operation from private landlords regarding information on criminal activity taking place at their properties. The police rely on the general public passing on relevant information to them regarding criminal activity. JO asked if the problem with Paignton Town Centre was due to the zero tolerance at Castle Circus in Torquay. MB replied that a percentage of the problem may be caused by that, but Paignton had a history of persistent offenders and these are the ones that needed targeting. Fortunately there is now a very quick system to put persistent offenders inside.	
c)	It was mentioned that the new taxi rank outside Apollo was not being used by those leaving the pubs and clubs along the seafront. One of the reasons was that those leaving the licensed premises along the seafront were looking to have something to eat prior to finding transport to take them home. They walk up Torbay Road, get their takeaway and continue on to Station Square to find a taxi. It's the 'chicken & egg' situation as Taxi's will not use the rank outside Apollo when they can get a guaranteed fare at station square. As there is no taxi on the rank, the Public walk up to station square. It was suggested that more publicity regarding the use of the rank might be needed. KT said that the taxi drivers were against the new rank and whilst they agreed prior to its installation they now refused to use it. 3 a.m. license is an issue with the Taxi drivers. A meeting was suggested between the Police, Ward Cllrs., Taxi Drivers and Barrie Davies. IF said this problem needed to be pursued via Barry Davies, TC licensing Officer. MB told the group that Friday night was the worst night for Public disorder in Paignton Town Centre and they were working with the licensees of Pubs and	IF MJ

	<p>Clubs over drug abuse and had some very sophisticated equipment to identify those pushing and using drugs.</p> <p>d) MB told the group about the first meeting he had attended regarding the Local Strategic Plan and the five themes it covered. Health, Housing and Social Care, Community Safety, Life Long Learning, Environment, Economy and Culture. This community plan was to find out what residents wanted. These discussions with the public are to take place in each Ward with representatives from the 5 Core Groups. Rather than set up another group MB felt that the Paignton Town Team addressed all the LSP requirements apart from Life Long Learning & Health, Housing & Social Care and asked if PTT would agree to him using it as a platform for LSP. It would mean inviting someone from Life Long Learning (Paignton) and Social Services (Paignton) to sit on the Paignton Town Team. MB felt that PTT had the correct balance of representation to fulfil the need for LSP. All present agreed.</p> <p>MJ as Governor of Paignton Community College agreed to contact Jane English – Principal of Paignton Community College for her to attend our next meeting together with one or two senior students. MB said that PCC needed their support and they had a presence at the school on a permanent basis.</p> <p><i>[NB MJ has met with Principal of PCC Jane English who is keen to attend our next meeting. She will be accompanied by 2 of her senior students. PC will extend an invitation to her to attend]</i></p> <p>e) There was a problem with Truancy, theft, drug addiction and public disorder connected to PCC which was much worse than any other school in Torbay. IF agreed with everything that had been said as the number of exclusions for PCC was high. R.Sharpe said there were a gang of young kids from that school who appeared to be led by someone 18+ who target Winner Street on a regular basis. One shop owner in Winner Street was seriously considering giving up her business because of regular theft and threatening behaviour by this gang. MB said he was not aware of the problem but would report it to the relevant community police officer. JO asked if changing the school leaving time from 3.30pm to 3.00pm had any affect on this issue. MB replied not that he was aware of and thought that the staggering of school times was beneficial. MJ asked MB how he felt about zero tolerance as adopted by America. MB replied that this was a short-term solution and the cause needed to be looked at and addressed, a combination of both needed to be adopted. R.Sharpe said that drinking in the street was still a problem in Winner Street. MB advised reporting it to the community police. R.Sharpe asked for a list of dates and times when the Police held their surgeries in Paignton Connections Office.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">PC</p> <p style="text-align: right;">MB</p>
2	VICTORIA SKATE PARK	ACTION
	<p>The provision of an extra and/or larger rubbish bin to be actioned.</p> <p>KT told the group that the skaters were back outside Apollo she had spoken to them and told them to use the skatepark that had been provided. They responded by saying it was not safe for them to use it as there were undesirables hanging around and they felt safer on the seafront. RT informed the group that they were looking at providing lighting, they will need to provide 33 extra lights in Victoria Park to bring it up to the required standard.</p> <p>KT said the skaters were outside Apollo during daylight hours not just at night and whilst the provision of lights were necessary it would not address this particular problem. MB said the Garage People need to be told of the problem. Garage People, Torbay Council and the Police need to address this.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">RT</p> <p style="text-align: right;">MB / RT</p>

3	BRITAIN IN BLOOM	ACTION
	RT told the group that Ian Turner from Paignton Zoo had agreed to form a Paignton in Bloom Team. He would be attending PTT meetings in the future but needed to attend the 'B In B' working party first. RT circulated the Britain in Bloom Guidelines which show how the percentage marks are awarded. TM of PHS said that they had a number of members who would like to help and he would refer them to RT. R.Sharpe asked what do we have to do to ensure flowerbeds are included in the re-vamp of Winner Street. TM and RT replied that he needs to contact Paul Osborne of Torbay Council.	RT
4	CHRISTMAS STREET LIGHTING	ACTION
	JO said that funds were coming in. Torbay Taxis looking to sponsor. PC asked the date of the switch on – JO not sure as Chamber were looking at 29 th November but Santa is arriving at Rossitors on 22 nd November decision not been made by Chamber yet. PC mentioned she had not had the invoice from the suppliers as yet. JO thought that it was on its way.	
5	WINNER STREET & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION	ACTION
	R.Sharpe, happy with way things are going regarding the traffic management scheme. The Assoc had asked for all sorts to be considered and it would appear that 9 out of 10 are being implemented. He mentioned the provision of extra car parking on the left-hand side just passed the Globe as there was land behind the shops. The land would have to be compulsory purchased as it belonged to houses behind but was inaccessible to them as it was a very steep drop. TM said this has been recognised by HERS as being an eyesore. IF and MJ said the cost of purchase for an additional 12 spaces would be far too expensive. JO asked R.Sharpe if a bus stop was to be provided in Winner Street. RT confirmed that there would be. R.Sharpe asked about litter bins in Winner Street. Herald Express are sponsoring bins but there is a cost to the council as these extra bins have to be emptied. All agreed that there was a problem with litter.	
6	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SCHEME	ACTION
	Still on-going, Hyde Road still on the agenda with 2 way traffic flow Winner Street will have loading Bays and minor improvements but will NOT be closed to traffic. MJ not sure why a 2 way traffic scheme in Hyde Road was so contentious. Needed to be convinced that it would not work. The subject of Traffic Wardens being taken over by local councils was raised. They would be on performance related pay and could fulfil the role of Street and Traffic Wardens. Government Guidelines state that Councils will take over the management and control of Traffic Wardens. MB asked who from the council was steering this through and RT responded that there were 3 council employees involved. Steve Hurley, Steve Cox and Alison Parnell. Recently there was a seminar on this subject that Alison Parnell attended.	
7	CLOTHING RECYCLE BINS	ACTION
	PC reported back that she was unable to answer the question raised by R.Stevens at the last meeting of PTT as Carol Arthur had not responded.	
8	SALVATION ARMY FELLOWSHIP WEEK	ACTION
	PC advised that the only date available at the Palace Theatre in May 2004 was 10-16 th . THA replied that they had to keep to the first week in May (1-7 th) depending on numbers they had other venues they could consider.	

9	A.O.B.	ACTION
a)	PC asked THA who would attend the PTT in the future now that Paignton Hotels Association had been amalgamated with Torbay Hospitality Association. THA said, as yet it was not decided.	
b)	PC had been asked by PTIC to raise the issue of an abandoned vehicle in one of the Disabled spaces outside the Apollo Cinema. KT responded that it was in hand and an order had been issued.	
c)	R.Stevens asked for confirmation that the fireworks would be going ahead in Paignton on 1 st November. Since the meeting PC has made further enquiries and the fireworks will definitely take place at Paignton Green on 1st Nov at 8.00pm The question was asked if the toilets would be open on the seafront for the fireworks, TM replied that he thought the ones by the Pier would be, but not those behind the Apollo Cinema.	
d)	JO raised the issue of buses from Compton and Marldon not operating to Paignton and the problems with re-routing the No.4 covering Roselands Estate.	
	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING IS:</p> <p>Wednesday 26th November 2003 10.00am–12.30pm</p> <p>VENUE - Apollo Cinema, Paignton</p>	