

**Notes from the Inaugural Meeting of the
Newbury Town Centre Community Forum (NTCCF)
held at
The Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury
on
Monday 1st April 2019**

There were 19 attendees at the meeting:

R Hunneman (TCCF Chair)	S Carr (TCCF Secretary)
R Sheikh	E O'Keeffe (NTC)
S Powell (WBC/BCT)	M Ambler
J Brown	E Jones
P Mcauley (BID)	Y Cilliers (NSP)
J Carr	M Vickers (NTC)
PC Hall (TVP)	D Sowden (TVP)
T Brown (TVP)	

1. Apologies

L Doherty (WBC); D Bennyworth (WBC); S Kelsall (WBC); T Lewis (TVP);
Brief introductions were made by all present.

2. Run through of Notes from last Meeting if items not on AGENDA

None

3. Update of Outstanding Actions from last meeting

A Boards

J Carr had proceed photographs which have been sent to N Carter CEO WBC and John Winstanley (WBC Head of Transport & Countryside). Comments were made and suggested enforcement action if any to be taken. JC to chase this up if no change, as there had been a high number of these boards in the middle of the pavement. The BID representative (PM) was asked if the BID could help with this. PM said that the BID had no powers to enforce this but could speak to businesses. JC confirmed that these boards should be at the kerb edge. PM said that without confirmation that this was the Council policy no action could be taken.

PM (BID) was asked what the policy was on this. PM outlined the way the BID worked – see attached document.

EO'K said that it was not just A boards but street furniture as well was causing a hazard to partially sighted pedestrians. MV added that the businesses needed a letter to point out the hazards of which they might not be aware. SP suggested that the TC Forum take this up themselves and approach the businesses and ask them to place the boards by the kerb edge as was requested by The Highways Department (WBC). SP to get details and send to SC. Attachment with this email.

Action: SP

St Catherin's Road Parking

There were limited spaces available. MV said that outcome of HYS carried out by TVP had not been reported back yet. Alleyway light was not good.

TVP arrived late to the meeting and were able to say that there had been no major issues from the HYS carried out in this area.

Chuggers

Some discussion on Chuggers took place. The main feeling being to just walk away as the 'chuggers' were not supposed to move more than 1 mtr away from the fixed point of the stand. If they persisted then call the BID on 01635 760505 and make a complaint, but give full details of what the complaint is about i.e. charity, date, time and description etc.

Buskers

E Jones asked if anything could be done about asking buskers to move from areas where buildings were occupied by resident, as sometimes the music was very loud. The BID was responsible for issuing licences for these but did not dictate where they stood in Northbrook street other than within a certain area.

4. Update by TVPViolet Crime

D Sowden gave brief details to those present and SC requested that the details be sent to her for including in the notes - to date these had not been received.

Homelessness

TVP said that charities were acting independently and they needed to work together to achieve results. Each agency had its own agenda. The number of rough sleepers had increased and RH said that residents felt very uncomfortable with the homeless.

Sally Kelsall (WBC) to attend the next meeting to give the Forum a full update on this situation.

ASB

TVP reported that there were a lot of issues. Sec 35 dispersal orders were being issued more often. Warning letters were being sent if order is ignored. Further action can be arrest if further ignored.

There were groups of youths (13-18) where the main trouble makers needed to be identified and be made an example of. A dispersal order means that the person cannot return to the same areas for 48 hours.

Travellers

TVP were able to deal with the latest incident in Victoria Park quickly as it was a public area and was used by resident of Newbury.

5. Priorities

The priorities for the Forum are:

A Boards
Chuggers
St Marys Road – Taxi Parking

TVP Priorities

Violent Crime/ Nighttime economy
ASB – to cover Youth Groups; Cycling; Noisy vehicles
Homelessness – working with Local Authority. – **Sally Kelsall to give update**

6. Any Other Business

EO'K – St Marys Road was being used during the day by Cabco cars waiting for calls. RS said he would take this up with Cabco. See response:

I spoke with the Cabco Director and discussed this issue on the 2nd April.

Wally accepted the issue but he advised that they had recently upgraded their despatch system and there was no need for anyone to park in St Marys Rd.

He also advised that he will circulate a memo within Cabco to ensure no drivers parked in St Marys Rd.

I did notify Wally that Licensing may receive a complaint from the Forum Group.

Riaz Sheikh

If no improvement TCCF to contact WBC.

JC asked TVP why the Police caravan had been in Northbrook street on a Wednesday when footfall was not particularly high and why it was not on a Thursday – market day - when footfall was much higher.

TVP said that it was out of their hands when the caravan was made available to West Berks in Newbury.

SC confirmed that the TCCF notes were now published on the Town Centre website.

7. **Next Meeting**

Meetings for the next 9 months are as follows:

Tuesday	21st May
Tuesday	23 rd July
Tuesday	24 th September