

BICESTER VISION

Meeting	BICESTER VISION FULL PARTNERSHIP MEETING
Present	Attached separately ensure we add list
Apologies	Attached separately ensure we add list
Date of meeting	Tuesday 7 th July
Venue	Officer's Mess, Bicester Garrison
Circulation	All partners
Date of next meeting.	Tuesday 29th September - TBA

<p>The meeting was hosted by Bicester Garrison and Lt Col Nick Wand welcomed partners and gave a brief explanation of the facilities and in particular why the grass was blue.</p>	
<p>Clare Wale – Bicester Review Clare who is the new editor of the Advertiser and Review Group gave the partnership information about the changes that have been made to the newspaper. She acknowledged that there had not been enough emphasis on Bicester news and that they were working hard to address this. There had been a recent meeting with BL and RF to discuss how we could support them by sharing news as often as possible. RF gave examples of some recent coverage by the paper and the Father's Day competition they ran. Clare explained that since the meeting, she had changed the back pages to include Bicester sport rather than Buckingham or other areas. 10,000 papers distributed in the Bicester area each week. Clare is keen to receive news and stories from all partners. Clare.wale@ccnltd.com</p>	All partners
<p>Questions arising from Chairman's Report BL had stated in his report his intention to stand down as Chairman in April 2010. He felt that his replacement should be a local Bicester person and requested that board members made suggestions for suitable candidates. AS suggested that BL make assurances that he would not leave without finding a replacement and BL assured him that would be the case.</p>	BL/ All
<p>Questions arising from Manager's Report JP told the group about the work of the KTOG group in High Wycombe – formed to keep business and residents informed about the redevelopment work in the town. BL explained that one of the initial objectives for Bicester Vision was to act as an information hub once work is underway and that we would be working towards that as things start to happen. It was generally agreed that we do not want to set up new groups where there is already overlap but should use the existing resources. Suggested that a KTOG (Keep the Town On the Go) group be discussed at the next meeting and how this would work.</p>	BL/All Next meeting

<p>There is a topographic study being undertaken for the road outside Wyevale which could change the way that road is used and ease some pressure off the roundabout.</p>	
<p>Education The group were informed that the Head teacher at Bicester Community College, Cynthia Bartlett would be leaving the school at Christmas. The governors are in the process of finding her replacement. PJ urged the board to attend the Business Links meeting hosted by the school each year – I have contacted the school and the date for this is 7th October at 6pm.</p>	<p>PJ/All</p>
<p>Market Square update. LW told the group about the three options for the market square redevelopment. There is a further meeting at the end of the month to confirm these options and then consultation will take place in the autumn. Date now fixed for this meeting. DP informed the partnership that consent had now been granted for additional taxi rank spaces in the evening on Bell Lane (by the Methodist Church).</p>	<p>LS</p>
<p>Round the Table</p> <p>Adam Payne, Bicester Country Club – although the pie has shrunk, there is more confidence and forward bookings are improving. It has been difficult to forecast in the last few months as people are leaving bookings until the last moment. The Country Club has had an outstanding two months with 87% occupancy. Mainly conference and corporate clients but starting to work well with the Tourist Information Centre and attract foreign visitors.</p> <p>Paul Jobling – Jobling Garage – government scrappage scheme has worked well and is likely to come to an end soon as the money will run out. Taking on a new car agency. Footfall holding up well. Updating premises.</p> <p>Lilian Bannister – Bicester Innovation Centre – the 3 centres are all performing differently. Bicester has been 90% full historically but is now 50% mainly because of long standing clients who have moved to more permanent sites. They have a relaunch event in September.</p> <p>Richard Rowland – First Great Western – big changes to the Oxford/Bicester service which has filled in many of the gaps. 86% increase in number of trains. Priced for off peak travellers. Healthy numbers – commuter market increased because of later trains.</p> <p>Adrian Shooter – Chiltern Railways – income from Bicester North remains flat. Foreign tourists visiting Bicester Village still increasing. First quarter was better than expected. Optimistic for good summer with increased foreign visitors. 170 new spaces in the car park.</p> <p>Chris Harris – London and Metropolitan – very little demand for office accommodation and no immediate hope for building the Business</p>	

Park.

CH also reported that Bicester Village continued to see incredible increase in visitor numbers. Initiative to encourage shoppers to come during the week. They are talking to OCC about traffic monitoring.

Chris West – Brita Manufacturing – UK sales doing well. Have now been in the building for 5 years. Recently saw record week in the warehouse and had to run double shifts.

Adrian Drake – Wyevale – very good trade – grow you own is particular growth area. Experienced a couple of quiet weeks recently but generally trade up 4-5% year on year. Generally the Avenue is doing well.

Mary Harpley – Cherwell District Council – reported that the Bicester Leisure Centre is now fully open. CDC is worried like other councils about future cuts in government funding for local government.

Debbie Pickford – Bicester Town Council – announced that Sue Mackrell has now been officially named as the Chief Officer at the Town Council. She also reported that the council's event programme is running well and there were more people at the Proms event than ever before. Perhaps due to the glorious weather but also because people are giving themselves small treats rather than big holidays.

Nick Wand – Bicester Garrison reported that the future expansion plans there had not changed.

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 29th September – 3pm
Venue to be confirmed.