

BICESTER VISION

Meeting	BICESTER VISION BOARD MEETING
Present	Bob Langton, David Marriott, Keith Watson, Sue Mackrell, Lawrie Stratford, Chris Harris, Adrian Shooter, Rachel Faulkner, Paul James.
Apologies	John Liggins, Debbie Pickford, Miranda Markham, Mary Harpley, James Porter
Date of meeting	Tuesday 19 th May 2009
Venue	The Garth, Bicester
Circulation	All partners
Date of next meeting.	Full Partnership Meeting – Tues 7th July – 3pm – Bicester Garrison

<p>Apologies, Welcomes and Minutes of last meeting Apologies were received. The minutes of the last Executive Board Meeting were confirmed as being accurate. RF explained that as Executive Board Meetings and Full Partnership meetings are alternated, the minutes referred to relate to the last Exec meeting in March not the Partnership Meeting in April.</p>	
<p>Questions arising from Chairman's Report BL had circulated his report prior to the meeting.</p>	
<p>Questions or comments arising from Manager's Report RF had circulated her report prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Plans for the Bicester Vision Retail Conference are well underway. Wyevale are hosting the event and providing refreshments for the delegates throughout the evening.</p> <p>There is a varied programme of speakers but it was agreed that the biggest difficulty would be in encouraging attendance. Any help that partners can offer through contacts would be welcomed. A draft programme will be sent with the minutes.</p> <p>In addition to speakers and free refreshments, Jack FM has offered a prize of £1000 worth of advertising on the radio for one of the businesses who attend.</p> <p>Constitution – RF is working on a rewrite of the constitution – to focus on following retail conference. Agreed that a clear published strategy was needed.</p> <p>BL reported that he had undertaken an annual appraisal with RF which went well. Agreed to undertake survey with partners and other stakeholders towards the end of the financial year. RF requested some training to be discussed further with BL.</p>	<p>All partners</p> <p>RF</p> <p>RF/BL</p>

<p>AGM – it was agreed that the AGM was a useful and successful event. There was a positive message and good attendance. The literature for the event looked professional and represented the Partnership well.</p>	
<p>Bicester Job Club DM confirmed that the Bicester Job Club would be launching on 11th June at the Kings Arms Hotel in Market Square. CDC is working with Jobcentre Plus to see if it will be possible for jobseekers to sign on at the event saving them a journey to Banbury or Oxford. There are two new team members at CDC working on job clubs – Alison Davis and Suzanne Kennedy. RF has since had a request from CDC that any businesses that have current vacancies are invited to attend or send details to the CDC team to include.</p>	<p>All partners</p>
<p>Working Parties</p> <p>Transport BL said that the board had hoped to get more clarification on how the Traffic Advisory Committee operates so that we ensure there is not unnecessary duplication of effort. It was felt that the information given by the County Council at the meeting following the AGM though well intended was not really what the Partnership are currently looking for and that partners are keen to see short term measures looked at to improve the town’s traffic flow. SM to discuss with Town Councillors how the TAC can work with Bicester Vision to ensure that the business sector is heard and all parties can try to find short and medium term solutions. CH was able to give the board information from the recent traffic survey work undertaken by Value Retail and update them on some of the suggestions currently being looked into. It was felt by all board members that it would be useful for private sector partners to have an input but it was not clear at this stage whether setting up an independent body is the answer or connecting to the TAC with representatives from Bicester Vision attending those meetings. Further discussion and clarification is still required.</p> <p>Market Square BL reported that progress is being made and Charles Shouler had circulated a revised timetable for the project. LS to contact Melissa at OCC about the next meeting. AS commented on the length of the process. BL said that it was vital that the project was linked to the town centre development work.</p> <p>Marketing RF covered in manager’s report. Ongoing work on Shopper’s Guide. Difficulty in getting accurate information. Working closely with CDC to ensure lack of duplication as they have officers working on Bicester Health Check.</p> <p>We have had some good stories in the local newspaper, most recently concerning Bicester Vision’s support of the national Lift</p>	<p>BL/LS/SM to progress</p> <p>LS/BL to progress</p> <p>RF</p>

<p>Share scheme. Partners are helping to support this initiative to encourage car sharing on Tuesday 9th June.</p> <p>RF is hoping to put a promotion together for Father's Day working with local shops.</p> <p>Town Centre Action Group Although the group had not met officially since the last meeting, progress has been made particularly with regards to notice boards. One has been removed, another is being refurbished. CDC has offered to find a suitable home for a new notice board in Sheep Street. Funding to be sourced. Chamber of Commerce offered to co-fund. Paper needed for Town Council to request funding.</p> <p>RF, through the Bicester Street Wardens, has contacted the landlords of Deans Court to ask them to tidy up the entry point to the centre which is, at present, very tatty.</p> <p>We established that a tree on Sheep Street was blocking the view of the CCTV cameras. The tree has since been pruned back as a result.</p> <p>We are still trying to establish the necessity (or not) for the large red signs at the top of Sheep Street.</p> <p>Taxi Rank – CDC are looking into the viability of additional taxi parking on Bell Lane.</p> <p>Traders Group/Chamber of Commerce We are hoping that, as a result of the Retail Conference, we can set up a Traders Group that is linked to both the Chamber of Commerce and Bicester Vision. This will be a valuable body for consultation particularly as the town centre development moved forward.</p>	<p>RF</p>
<p>AOB Bicester Jazz Festival – SM reported that plans are underway for this year's festival – 8/9th August. As always there would be events at Bicester Village, Garth Park and in the town centre. There have been suggestions that Wyevale and Bicester North might also like to get involved this year.</p> <p>Bicester Sports Centre – DM confirmed that the sports centre would be officially opened on Saturday 13th June by Dame Tanni Gray-Thompson.</p> <p>AS said that there had been lots of support for Chiltern Railways plans which were very encouraging.</p> <p>First Great Western – partners will be aware that FGW have enhanced their service to and from Bicester and included a Sunday service. The official launch was held on 23 May at Bicester Town station.</p>	

Date of next meetingTuesday 7th July – 3pm at Bicester Garrison

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