

**KIPPAX TRADERS ASSOCIATION**

**NEXT MEETING** - Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 6pm at  
Black and Cream (Kippax High Street)

- - - - -

Minutes of meeting held Wed. 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013

Present:- Pat (Pats Sweets), Christine (Goodalls), Jude (Dodgson's), Karen (Black & Cream), Karen & Sam (Blades Hairdressers), Paul & Amanda (Flintoft Butchers), Mary & Vic (Ann Marie), Pete Mudge (LCC), Margaret & Nadine (Stockton Opticians), Mathew (Commercial Inn), Doug Morley (Kippax Parish Council)

Apologies:- Nicki (Newsagents)

Doug opened the meeting with the announcement that this year's Kippax Christmas Lights Switch on will be on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

It is intended to re-introduce the shop window dressing competition but this year it will be 'The Best Dressed Business Competition', there will be a trophy shield for the winners and the judging will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Various matters relating to the Switch On were discussed including: possible Traders voluntary contribution towards the costs, having the Fun Fair attend and having Santa's Grotto again. Doug said that a letter was going out setting out the Parish Council's ideas and proposals. A Lights Switch On Meeting is scheduled for 7pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September at Mount Pleasant Community Centre.

Paul asked if there could be some entertainment or attraction further down the High Street so that shops further down the street could be more involved. It was suggested the Car Park area outside the Vet/William Hills would be an ideal spot ... possibly to have more fun fair rides (which contribute to the costs of the switch on ) or some sort of stalls. Doug agreed that the Parish Council would look into this idea.

Apart from the 'Lights' update, Doug reported that a questionnaire with regard to opinions regarding the High Street Business Development Plan would be sent out in the near future, (when the actual questions have been formulated,) to assess feelings in the village.

The Parish Council has received a petition asking if it would be possible to provide a Skate Park in the village. Possible siting is being looked at with areas mentioned including the old Station site on Station Road, (although this, technically is outside the Kippax Boundary) or land at the rear of the old co-op on Station Road (adjacent to the Equestrian Centre).

Doug confirmed that the P.C. is keen to have the Hermitage situation resolved as soon as possible.

Doug was told about the last traders' meeting when Co-op mentioned funding could be applied for to have a statue or piece of artwork on the High Street. Doug suggested that a letter should be sent to the P.C. explaining the idea.

Doug reported that Leeds CC have been approached to clean out road gulleys round the village, in particular down the Mary Panel area where plant life is thriving in the obviously blocked up gulleys.

Pete reported that another bus service was to be introduced running between Kippax and Leeds (the X46 which was thought to run hourly during the week). Traders looked upon this as just another service to take potential custom away from the village shops and into Leeds and is provided without any thought to the village traders.

Pete also reported that, because of Government Legislation, 'Jumbo's Nick' would have to be re-opened. However the gate will remain, and in the event of any subsequent cause for complaint, or trouble it can be closed again if need be. The owners of Truffles has agreed to monitor the situation.

Leeds City Council officers at the highest level are involved in negotiations with regards to the Hermitage and meetings are being held with the aim of resolving the situation. Concern was again expressed about the condition of the dwarf wall frontage to the used car lot (adjacent to the Hermitage) and it was agreed to once more try to get the owner to repair it to a safe and presentable standard. Doug agreed to ask the PC to write to Mr Sherburn asking if he would let the old garage site be used during the lights switch on in return for the public sector and community removing the dwarf wall. (Doug left the meeting at this point.)

Sam reported he had done some work using the web template that Pete had suggested but thought that the best way of proceeding would be to create a web site with contributions from each of the individual businesses. Concern was voiced about the amount of work and time this would involve (adversely interfering with Sam's studies). Mathew (Commercial Pub) said he had already created web sites for the pubs he has interests in so it was agreed that Sam and himself would get together to consolidate their ideas.

As previously noted, Peacocks is to take over part of the Co-op, but there will be no new shop frontage opened and from the outside, the Co-op will remain just as it is. Entrance into Peacocks will be from inside the Co-op.

Mary said Co-op did not offer a wide enough choice to draw customers into Kippax High Street. Pete asked if traders would like to see a second supermarket on the street and every trader opposed this idea. Peter said he will write to Co-op asking if they will reconsider giving Peacocks a High Street frontage.

Jaks ice cream parlour has closed down and the unit is now up for sale. It is suspected that the developer is hoping to sell it as residential and thus take away another business property. It was agreed for the Traders group to write to planning to object to any future application for change of use.

Seniors (double glazing) unit is on the market and is being advertised in the residential section of newspapers. Again, this situation should be watched.

Work is now continuing on the Royal Oak Site, some demolition has been done round the side where the narrow footpath is to be widened. The rubble tipped over the site boundary has not been moved.

Negotiations are going on with the potential developer for the Alldays site.

Thanks to Christine for distributing minutes (48 copies, but 60 needed next time!)

The next meeting was fixed for **Wed. 2<sup>nd</sup> October**, 6.00pm at Black and Cream.