

Kippax Traders Association

Amendment:

Reference to the re-opening of 'Jumbo's Nick' was wrongly reported in the last minutes. An e.mail was sent out on the 20<sup>th</sup> Feb. to rectify this. The e.mail read as follows:-

The Councils Right of Way Team state that only a Government Inspector can decide to keep it shut and under the UK Law they have no option but to open it. Councillors, Area Committee and the majority of the community would like it to stay shut, and investigation is now underway as to whether a way can be found. The matter is likely to be decided by a government inspector later this year, meaning that Jumbos Nick will remain shut until that enquiry is concluded.

Meeting Wed. 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

Present: Pat (Pats Sweets), Helen Carr, Nikki (Newsagents), Jane & Karl (Ice-cream Parlour) Christine (Goodalls), Karen (Black & Cream), Jayne (Dodgsons), Vic (Ann Marie), Pete Mudge

Apologies: Emma (Florists), David (Co op), Mary (Ann Marie)

After discussing the amendment to the last minutes there was an up to date run down of the High Street:-

Old School Site... the site has been taken off the open market by the Council and the likeliest development still appears to be old peoples housing.

Royal Oak site ... planning has been approved for 7 residential units, plus the small separate retail unit. It was commented that a further application for the remainder of the originally proposed units may follow at a later date.

Barclays unit ...Pete reported that agents DTZ have indicated they hope to be able to put some images in the windows. Pat Samy said the brickwork is to be cleaned up.

Alldays unit ... Pete has spoken with the owner, who wants to buy the house unit next door and regenerate the whole of the site for retail units. There is an issue with the existing retaining wall at the rear of the William Hills as nobody seems to know who owns it and it is in need of attention (it forms the Church Yard boundary, and may belong to the Church).

Helens Cottages ... Pat reported that work on the proposed gable end mural had been delayed by the weather, and further that work by Kippax in Bloom had generally been delayed but regardless of this Judging was still due to take place on the 9<sup>th</sup> April. (Subsequently the Spring judging was scrapped due to the late snow.)

Helen reported that Vinyls had been put on the Old Nursery Windows.

The Hermitage...Pete reported that Clr. Wakefield is due to meet with the Council next month to discuss a way forward.

The Tattoo shop... the scheme to use for Neighbourhood Development plan has not proved viable .. but ..the Parish Council may be able to use the Library for this purpose.

It was further generally discussed as to the High Street...

Pete has met with the Post Office as is it thought that the present premises are not big enough for the purpose.

Jason will be closing for 9 days over the Easter period for a full refurbishment.

Kevin is to re-paint the front of his unit.

It is understood the owners of 'Simons Costumes' plan to install a new shop front.

The Alarm shop is still not open though it appears that an opening in the near future is imminent.

The litter situation again came under discussion, in particular the area around the Legion club bottle bank and the alley along side Jaks Icecream Parlour (in particular rubbish and dog fouling). Pete again said that a dog inspector could be arranged if specific times could be provided. (it was suggested that increased anti-fouling signs might help). It was reported that an electronic Litter Sweeper is now going round regularly and that the Parish Council aim to employ a litter picker, which will include the High Street.

It was noted that blue paint has been sprayed over the Wells Garden and on the walls of the new Jaks Parlour building. It was noted that this was probably emulsion and should clean off.

Pete supplied details of Retail Skills Courses (at greatly reduced rates) available through the Leeds Retail Skills Academy Website. Full details can be supplied to anyone interested in courses. The website for details is [www.theleedsretailskillsacademy.co.uk](http://www.theleedsretailskillsacademy.co.uk)

Pete also supplied full details of a FREE Town Centre Retail website to enable trading online for businesses in the village. The website is free but that is on the basis that the shop takes its own pictures and uploads them. People trading online can make a lot of money and undoubtedly local businesses will increasingly lose out if they do not have capacity for online sales. Despite this, across the UK it is clear most town and village centres do not produce online sites promoting the town/village's offer - as a result their potential of online sales has never been realised. If the High Streets are to make the most of opportunities they must develop this at some time. (And that is what this campaign is aimed at) If Kippax is the first area of Leeds to do this it would be a great PR opportunity and place its traders at the forefront of innovative thinking. (Where they rightly belong!) To deliver the project successfully there should be someone co-ordinating it. This could be a specialist, a student or a member of the traders group. Perhaps this co-ordinator could charge businesses £1 (or whatever is a reasonable amount) for each pic he/she takes of items within the shop and places online? On this basis, for £20 the business could have a reasonable display. The website for details about this opportunity is [www,seemytown.co.uk](http://www.seemytown.co.uk)

It would seem great as a subsequent step if one or two traders offered online collection and delivery (as a profitable enterprise) so anyone wishing to, could have an item delivered to them rather than heading to the shop to pick it up?

The meeting finished with a discussion as to best way of distributing the Meeting Minutes. These are e.mailed where e.mail addresses are available but Helen and Christine volunteered to distribute the minutes in throughout the shopping area.

**The next meeting was set for Wed. 8<sup>th</sup> May, 6.00pm at Black & Cream.**  
**YOU ARE ALL WELCOME**