

## KIPPAX TRADERS ASSOCIATION

### Meeting Minutes Wed. 25<sup>th</sup> July 2012

Present:-\_\_Pete Mudge (LCC), Vic & Mary (Ann Marie), David (Co-op) Karen & Carera (Black & Cream)

Apologies from Pat (snowed under with Kippax in Bloom), Nicki , Wendy & Jane (Dodgson's), Emma.

Karen & Carera were welcomed to their first meeting since opening. Karen commented on last meetings minutes:- she did not apply for planning because no planning permission was needed and that she had not been into Goodalls as reported.

**Bank Petition:** The petition in support of the Co-op opening a Bank in Kippax is progressing with the emphasis now on gaining signature throughout the village as well as the petition form in the Parish Magazine, and the aim is to get over a 1000 signatures in the next fortnight. Paul Durkin (who is on the Board for the Leeds area) has asked if the Traders could also pledge support. It was thought that to promise to change banking over to the Co-op was too much to expect, but, in general we would agree to support the opening of a Co-op Branch. Carera suggested that opening a petition on Facebook might help and she agreed to put this in place.

It is aimed to hand the petition over on the 18<sup>th</sup> September. Further photo shoots with local councillors in support are to be arranged. It was pointed out that if the opening of a branch goes a head it should have a frontage onto the High Street, and not be hidden away inside the store.

**Barclays Bank:** The old Barclays Bank Building is unlikely to open as a coffee shop. The bank and Baraka's could not agree on a way forward though both in principle were willing for it to be tried. Subsequently Baraka's have said they cannot see how the project can proceed.

**High Street update:** Pete intimated that the the former All Days store may be up and running with a new offer within the next 12 months. He was not at liberty to give any further details.

It was noted that the new shop and accommodation next to the White Swan was, (albeit an imposing building,) an asset to the High Street.

Pete said Section 205 notice on The Hermitage was progressing and he understood some repairs were due to get underway in August. Other projects were being discussed but he was not able to divulge any further information at this time.

The Old School site is no longer for sale. The Council want to earmark the site for elderly residential development. Some fencing is to be erected round the site by Kippax in Bloom, and Kippax in Bloom were congratulated on the appearance of the High Street, and in particular with the transformation of the old toilet block into a Cottage.

It was noted that hoarding has now been erected to the side and rear of the Royal Oak although no information was to hand as to what exactly is going to happen.

The ex. fruit / veg shop is to be opened as an estate agent in the near future.

With regard to the 'Carr' cottages, it is understood the family generally agreed to the traders suggestion of enhancing them by painting and adding some kind of mural. Paint, scaffold, labour, are obvious costs and although enquiries will be made as to 'volunteers' it was obviously stated that the Council would not pay for private houses to be decorated. Karen agreed to speak the Helen to try and come to some way forward over this.

Although the general appearance of the High Street was complimented on it was still noted that a couple of premises, in particular the Chinese takeaway (opposite the Snooker Cue building) and the Snooker Building itself were still very shabby and badly needed a facelift. Mary and Carera agreed to meet and visit these together to try and get some co-operation.

It was noted that since speaking to Ceasars, a concerted effort has been made to join in the spirit of things and it was agreed that they should be thanked for this.

David reported that the Co-op opening hours were now 7am till 11pm Monday to Saturday and 8am till 8pm on a Sunday. He does not know if these will change after the Olympics are finished.

It was noted that after Nicki's comments regarding pot holes near her shop and Pete's intervention, Chapel Lane has been resurfaced and patch repairs completed on the High Street. Pete explained the High Street surface is the responsibility of central government and therefore the best the Council could do is patch repairs.

With regard to a suggested Gala Day (or similar event), it was proposed to advertise for volunteers to organise an event, possibly in the Parish Magazine.

The meeting closed at 7.30 and the next meeting was set for Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August to be held at BLACK and CREAM.