



ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS TOWN FORUM

Overview of Matt Goodwin meeting with Sheila Wheeler and Diane Talbot

23 June 2006

1. TWBC to provide support in shape of Mike McGeary on TF minutes, circulation of agendas and making arrangements with speakers and other invitees.
2. Mike's time is however only a short term arrangement and he will be replaced with someone else in TWBC fairly imminently.
3. Sheila Wheeler will assist with speaker arrangements for the TF where you have contacts and/or influence.
4. The meeting hall will continue to be available to the TF.
5. Sheila Wheeler will arrange a TWBC liaison officer for the TF who will be first point of contact.
6. TWBC will specifically bring forward issues to the TF on which the temperature of the town would be valuable knowledge.
7. The likely three main issues in the TF over the next few months will be:
 - Planning.
 - Highways - Sheila Wheeler to raise with Peter Gilroy the TF's interest in highways matters and arrange to have someone come and present on their way forward for the future.
 - use of TWBC's £40m (*) in reserves - the only information currently available on the reserves is in TWBC's capital and revenue budget documentation but it is not user friendly. TWBC are looking at putting in place a medium term financial strategy based on the new community plan which will look at how to use the reserves and Sheila Wheeler will discuss when she comes to the October/November meeting.
8. Di Talbot and her team will assist the TF in turning out Press Releases after each monthly meeting and will also arrange issue to local press outlets.
9. Sheila Wheeler to ask Rob Cottrill, Director of Planning and Development, to speak to October Town Forum. He will focus on the main strategic planning issues.
10. Sheila Wheeler to discuss with Nigel Bolton the possibility of a TF notice board in the public library.
11. Borough News - Sheila Wheeler and Di Talbot suggested that a photograph and some explanation of the role of the TF could be included in the November edition of the Borough News. The photo would need to be in September to meet the publishing deadlines.

(*) 31.03.2006 (Financial Report 2005/2006):
revenue reserves £32.521m – general fund revenue £2.4m