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## ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS TOWN FORUM

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21 January 2010

Daniel Bech (Community Champion, Royal Tunbridge Wells Town Forum)  
Mel Henley (Parks Manager, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council)  
Michael Holman (Chairman, Tunbridge Wells Twinning Town – Wiesbaden)  
and  
Jamie Curtis (Portfolio Manager, Targetfollow)  
Harry Savory  
Lucie Wilson

The meeting with Targetfollow, Pantiles, on Thursday **21 January 2010** was based on the meeting of Christopher Thomas and Daniel Bech of Royal Tunbridge Wells Town Forum with Jeremy Aldous and Harry Savory of Targetfollow at the Corn Exchange, Pantiles, on Friday 11 December 2009 to discuss various topics, which are of interest to the Royal Tunbridge Wells Town Forum.

On 21 January 2010 two main topics were on the agenda:  
participation and organisation of Royal Tunbridge Wells in Bloom and Weinfest.

The topics of common interests have not altered and I am glad to report that Jamie Curtis, Harry Savory and Lucie Wilson could reconfirm our initial thoughts.

- Rejuvenation of the Pantiles – There are no plans filed yet.

[Daniel Bech reconfirmed the Town Forum's position of support.](#)

- The possibility of routing the Town Centre Bus Links / 'Shopper Hopper' buses through Linden Park Road and High Street (proposed for the 'Royal Tunbridge Wells Masterplan' / Town Centre Area Action Plan)

[Daniel Bech confirmed that this topic will be raised at a future Town Forum liaison with Arriva.](#)

[Action 1\) – Targetfollow to write letter to Arriva Bus - Robert Patterson, Business Development Manager - \[pattersonr.sc@arriva.co.uk\]\(mailto:pattersonr.sc@arriva.co.uk\) - to confirm support](#)

[Action 2\) – Christopher Thomas to coordinate meeting with Arriva Bus and someone from Targetfollow should be attending as well.](#)

- The possibility of Targetfollow to let the Town Forum use an empty shop on the Pantiles for a short period at no charge was discussed; Jeremy Aldous said that this was feasible.

[This was confirmed by Jamie Curtis – dates to be announced.](#)

[Action – Town Forum to propose suitable dates.](#)

- Jeremy Aldous informed that some offices on the Pantiles would run out of their leases in 2014. Daniel Bech said that there is a Local Economy & Housing Select Committee on 7 January 2010 giving a recommendation on how South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) / West Kent could work together more efficiently with the borough. He will update Targetfollow in due course.

[Action – Daniel Bech to update when information is available.](#)



# ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS IN BLOOM

- Within the rejuvenation programme, a substantial amount of planters and troughs will be put up on the Pantiles. Schools participating in the “Royal Tunbridge Wells in Bloom” initiative could plant these baskets etc. Staff of Targetfollow could then maintain the planters. Jeremy Aldous welcomed this idea.

Jamie Curtis welcomed this too.

Action – Royal Tunbridge Wells in Bloom Committee: The Schools Initiative in conjunction with the ‘Royal Tunbridge Wells in Bloom’ to plant baskets (possibly as competition); management then left to Targetfollow.

[www.royaltunbridgewellsinbloom.org.uk](http://www.royaltunbridgewellsinbloom.org.uk)

- Daniel Bech suggested that Kent Highways would facilitate a cleaning up and decorating of RTW roundabouts, provided there would be volunteers or sponsors ready to take on the involved works. Jeremy Aldous showed interest, as there might be a chance to erect a ‘Pantiles’ roundabout sign.

Mel Henley confirmed that roundabouts are major advertisement places and in competitions have a high advertisement ranking. Jamie Curtis agreed and there were ideas of revolving signs for different Pantiles’ traders, or willing to sponsor as a ‘global’ Pantiles brand.

Action 1) – Mel Henley to give information about the roundabout London Road / Eridge Road / Nevill Terrace (leading to Sainsburys).

Action 2) – Daniel Bech to confirm asap to Kent Highways a volunteer action to clean up the roundabout. Suggested date: weekend 20/21 March 2010. This is an opportunity for PR.

Mel Henley gave a full briefing on sponsorship opportunities for Royal Tunbridge Wells in Bloom based on his document previously circulated as Draft to the Royal Tunbridge Wells in Bloom Committee

[www.royaltunbridgewellsinbloom.org.uk/sponsors2010/rtwinbloom-sponsorshipoppps-draftmh200110.pdf](http://www.royaltunbridgewellsinbloom.org.uk/sponsors2010/rtwinbloom-sponsorshipoppps-draftmh200110.pdf)

Action – Lucie Wilson to get in contact with Daniel Bech / Mel Henley  
- [marketing@royaltunbridgewellsinbloom.org.uk](mailto:marketing@royaltunbridgewellsinbloom.org.uk) - to coordinate marketing.

- The opportunity to organise a “Weinfest” in Royal Tunbridge Wells was discussed.

Michael Holman suggested that Tunbridge Wells launch its very own wine fair, perhaps starting as early as August this year. In order to attract funding, the event might be called ‘**The High Weald Wine Fair**’, held at the Pantiles in Royal Tunbridge Wells. Michael pointed out that it is essential to have an overarching structure that goes beyond the borough of Tunbridge Wells, but makes the town and the Pantiles the centre of activity. It was mentioned as well, it would be important to tie it in to other events like musical performances - jazz, brass - food, circus performers and some form of street theatre. Michael expects to be in the twinning town of Wiesbaden in mid-February and having Targetfollow’s confirmation of support in hand he will be able to move things forward with discussions.

Action – Jamie Curtis to get in contact with Michael Holman to let him know if the Wine Fair is the kind of event that Targetfollow would wish to support through sponsorship and organisation.