



RETAIL ACTION GROUP

Minutes for meeting on Monday 12th March 2007 at 10.30 am at the Town Council offices, 18 Fort Road, Newhaven

1. Present: Tracey Evans (TE); Caroline Boswell (CB) and Steve Berry (SB)
and
Apologies for absence: James Neeter (JN)
2. Chairing of meeting and attendance list
SB agreed to be chair of the group.
Agreed that priority attendance should be from education and business support.
Ideas explored for an evening event to invite all retailers of Newhaven to attend.
3. Masterplan Action Point 20 (2.11)
Agreed development of Retail should happen along-side other developments within the Masterplan.
Agreed developing a niche market offer in the Town-centre would be practical.
Discussed Saxonholme, Post Office and Asda possible developments.
4. Chamber of Commerce
Chamber is keen to develop membership among retailers and willing to offer support to retailers.
Possible membership benefits from member companies could be an important incentive.
5. Sussex Downs College
Held over till next meeting.
6. Retail CoVE
Held over till next meeting.
7. Priority Actions
 - Strengthen the Market offer.
 - Encourage involvement of new businesses in Newhaven.
 - Investigate use of empty shop fronts for advertising other town businesses.
 - Investigate advertising for Dieppe and Le Havre Chamber of Commerce.
 - Promote tourism for Newhaven through information boards
8. Any Other Business
 - Encourage retailers outside the town centre to create signage within the town centre e.g. Sussmans
 - Study Retail Strategy and update including issues such as the rise in demand for organic produce and issues of food miles.
 - Continue to discuss with developers regarding investment and infrastructure.
9. Date of next meeting – Monday 12th June at 10.30 - NTC