

January Update from Dorking Town Partnership

BID Ballot

An overview of the ballot process was provided by Mosaic, who will be assisting the BID with the election process. The election timeline and associated procedures were covered. The ballot will take place between 9th June – 8th July.

Christmas trees and hanging baskets

Feedback has been received from businesses at the east end of town that hanging baskets and Christmas trees would be welcomed. A few more businesses at this end of town have signed up to receive a basket, which may encourage others to do the same. In some cases there has been an issue with landlord permission but hopefully this can be overcome.

Cockerel Roundabout

Further enquiries have been made and the roundabout may be eligible for the 'sponsor a roundabout scheme' run by Surrey County Council. Enquiries are being made by Mole Valley District Council. An initial quote has been obtained from Road Traffic Solutions to close the road for the works, this amounts to approximately £2k.

Platinum Jubilee

The Board discussed how the Platinum Jubilee could be marked in Dorking with suggestions including a street party and window art trail similar to the Christmas trail with different businesses having their windows decorated with the trail clues. It was agreed that residents may hold their own street parties so whether people would visit a larger one in town. Discussions will continue to choose a suitable event.

Paradox Parlours

Paradox Parlours are an escape room business based at Denbies. They have approached Dorking Town Partnership to see if they could support an event in town to promote the high street and bring footfall to the town. It was discussed whether this could be linked to the Platinum Jubilee in some way. Discussions continue.

Training

Mental Health and First Aid training will take place on 20th – 21st January.

MVDC Update

Pippbrook House

The transfer of Pippbrook house will occur this year after a long and difficult process. This is a new campaign which encourages people to spend their time and money locally giving resources for how people can engage in activities in the area. The Foundry Project will come to the fore with the Regeneration Project coming later in the next municipal year.

Business Marketing and Promotion of Investment Opportunities

There will be investment in marketing and the promotion of investment opportunities. Online resources provided for this will be brought forward to include a business support

programme with workshops, training and support for start-ups, including learning lunches if this can be achieved.

Carpark Refurbishment

This project continues to make progress, although Southside carpark has been challenging as it needs to be shut to complete surveys for access. There are also different rights over the land and this has to be worked out with the relevant parties notified ahead of any works. This is due to take place this month. St. Martin's car park is ready for the next phase of works with the addition of the charging points project now going out to tender.

St Martin's Walk Artwork

St Martin's Walk have commissioned a piece of 3D artwork based on the Stepping Stones. This will provide a fun focal point for photographs and discussion.

Parking Charges

- The Board discussed the proposed 10p increase in parking charges due to be introduced by Mole Valley District Council. Following a long debate, a vote was held for the rise in parking charges by the Directors and DTP agreed to reluctantly accept the parking charge increase of 10p fixed for three years - which was passed.