

Item 8: Brief Progress Updates

**Hampshire Action Team**

(Verbal update)

**The Turnaround Project**

(Verbal update)

**Andover Vision** (Update provided by Sue Sheppard, Andover Vision Manager)

In the last six months the following activities have been carried out:

Engaged the community with the Vision by having a stand at the following events: Sports Fair, Summer Sounds, Family Fun Day & Food Fayre. Promotional items were given away i.e. balloons, pens, badges, window stickers, brochures, flyers, jute bags promoting the vision. 3 surveys about living in Andover were also carried out.

Visited and engaged the Andover schools with the Vision. It is planned to re-write the Vision document with the help of the school to produce a document that will engage the young. Every Andover school has nominated 2 children to become 'Vision Ambassadors'. They all attended a workshop at the Lights in November. Lots of discussion about the future of Andover followed by making a clay model of the 'new' town. Very successful adventure! The Schools Ambassadors are awaiting a date to meet with the Vision Board for a workshop and feedback about their town.

Launched the website [www.andovervision.co.uk](http://www.andovervision.co.uk) - have a look at the forums!

Initiated a plan to provide a riverside walk between Bridge Street and Asda to coincide with the opening of the cinema. The path needs widening, we have engaged HSA on the project and they are supportive and will give rights over their land and possibly move their fencing to accommodate a new path.

A mail shot is about to go out to all the Parishes around Andover. They will be sent the Vision document and a letter including website details and the offer to attend a parish meeting to update them on the vision and discuss ideas on how they can contribute.

Theatre Plaza: Arthur Freeman, developer of Ford Cottage has been engaged with the vision and it is planned to work together to lift the look of the hording around the site. We plan to erect promotional boards advertising the vision. Andover College Art Dept has also been engaged to brighten up the area.

A seminar called 'The Business of Learning' is being held at The Lights in March. It is a project aiming to engage local business with the Vision and Andover. We shall also be encouraging them to partner a local school. There are several guest speakers discussing existing arrangements and the benefits.

Work is being done on a project to encourage 'Ambassadors' of Andover. Sue is taking a Windsor Ambassador course with a view to replicating the course here. We plan to offer an Ambassador Course at The Lights for all businesses who serve the public. The course can be run by Vision Ambassadors (volunteers) and attendees will receive a certificate. We shall be targeting retail, taxi and bus drivers, hotels, restaurants, cafes etc. The aim is to empower employees with the Vision for Andover, to promote better customer service and make Andover a friendly welcoming town with a lot to offer.

The Vision is also involved in work on proposals to provide updated leisure facilities in Andover.

### **Romsey 2020** (Update provided by Christine Cole, Town Centre Manager, TVBC)

Led by the Chairman of Romsey 2020, Rod Simpson, a short presentation was given to Borough Councillors at a pre meeting of Full Council on 10<sup>th</sup> January. At the meeting the Romsey 2020 Committee members were able to circulate their 'Vision' document and update on progress.

During the preparation of the document the Romsey 2020 Committee members have identified a number of projects to focus on and seek funding.

Major projects currently underway include:

- A Youth Conference on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2008 engaging with local school pupils to establish their views of Romsey now and in the future.
- The 'Save Our Bus Campaign' to lobby Stagecoach and other bus operators to ensure the rail-bus link to Winchester is maintained or alternatives are put in place.
- Promotion of Romsey with a new edition of the Romsey Town Guide to incorporate Tourism information and the Shopping Guide information.

Further projects will be developed in due course.