

WimbledonCivicForum

in association with

TheWimbledonSociety

Held Wednesday 23 April 2008 6.30-8 pm
St Mark's Church, St Mark's Place SW19

THE FUTURE OF WIMBLEDON – Summary of meeting

A major public workshop facilitated by the Urban Design Task Force of the Civic Forum looked at the future of the town centre and the village, and launched the campaign for a Creative Plan for Wimbledon to shape it for the future in a way that is planned and well thought through.

Chaired by

Stephen Hammond MP for Wimbledon and shadow cabinet member for Transport.

With panelists :

Councillor Tariq Ahmad - Cabinet member for Environment and Traffic Management - LB Merton

Sue Harris, Head of Street Scene and Waste - LB Merton

Marcus Beale RIBA - Urban Design Task Force - Wimbledon Civic Forum

Diana Sterck - CEO - Merton Chamber of Commerce

Rev. Andrew Wakefield – Chair – Wimbledon Town Centre Partnership

Headline Summary (more details provided on the WCF website – see below)

A very well attended meeting with an excellent panel and around 80 members of the public, in addition to, Cllrs. Diane Neil Mills, Rod Scott, and David Dean, Chairs of local Residents' Associations, the Wimbledon Society and the local Guardian newspaper.

After the panel introductions, the members of the public divided into task groups and produced the following summary conclusions :

- Wimbledon Town Centre (WTC) needs to be improved
- WTC needs a separate identity building on the culture, heritage and distinctive features of Wimbledon that need to be clearly identified
- There should be more individual shops rather than chain stores
- There should be more trees, greenery and better public spaces and art
- There should be better buildings, more consistency and cohesive design, better materials, quality not quantity, remove street debris, improve litter
- Community facilities are important and should be improved
- There should be less over-development and ugly new buildings
- WTC should be more like Richmond and less like Kingston or Croydon
- Streets should be narrower, pavements wider with more pedestrian areas
- Less traffic, no one way system, improve the station and surroundings
- The UDP should be enforced, LDF should include a WTC Creative Plan
- Recognition that the Council needs to get behind this and appoint a professional

Read more on the website - <http://www.wimbledoncivicforum.org.uk/whatson/fow.pdf>