

<b>Earl Shilton Business Forum Meeting 15th October 2009 – Constitutional Club</b>		
<b>1. Present</b>	Mark Davies - Earl Shilton Business Forum (MD) Rob Phelps – Earl Shilton Business Forum (RP) Richard Craddock – Skillsbase Training Terry Kirby Tracy Gleadhill Geoff Waters – Best of Hinckley Carl Duggan – House2Home Ellen Martin – Dave Wilson Homes Di Seddon – Dave Wilson Homes Frank Tipper - Earl Shilton Town Council (FT) Jenny Hooper – Independent Freight Glen Patterson – Custom Enterprises (GP) Judith Sturley – HBBC (JS) Keith Howkins – K2 Media Services (KH)	
<b>Apologies</b>	Koreen Hubbard – Earl Shilton Business Forum Steve Hardy – Earl Shilton Business Forum  All other Members	
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>2. Idea's for the initial £300k</b>	The consultants have £300k available as an initial amount of funding, and ideas were requested from the floor or later via email as to what would be the best use for this money.  JS updated us on the situation, Mark Rose at Capita Lovejoy is the consultant and the money must be spent by end of March 2010, RP to make contact and act a liason between Earl Shilton businesses and the consultants.	RP
<b>3.Original Shopping Guide</b>	K2Media Services have produced a first draft of the updated Shopping Guide, it is now colour coded and with the larger retailers highlighted.  RP stated that there are a number of	<b>RP</b>

	<p>advertising opportunities from £40 and offered those slots to the attendee, a number booked slots.</p> <p>RP will pass this information on to K2 Media for follow-up.</p>	<b>KH</b>
<b>4. Shop Front Painting</b>	<p>MD gave an update, 9 shops have taken advantage of the grant so far, with an extra 5 still in the pipeline.</p>	
<b>5. Empty Shop Windows</b>	<p>RP mentioned that he and Koreen had had a discussion yesterday about a grant of up to £5k which is available from Voluntary Action Leicester. They had come up with the idea of opening up empty premises to “starving artists” for them to exhibit their works. This would enable use of empty shops, give aspiring artists the chance to show their works and perhaps inspire young people to create their own works of art.</p> <p>Glen mentioned that this was underway in Hinckley already! This could be used to our advantage as we could ride on the back of this initiative. MD will contact Lindsey Audon (HBBC) about this and see if we can help each other. Glen also offered to make some contacts on our behalf.</p>	<p><b>RP/ Koreen</b></p> <p><b>MD/GP</b></p>
<b>6. Farmers Market</b>	<p>RP asked what people felt about this and if it was a success, there wasn’t a huge response, but Tracy stated that a friend of hers had travelled from Leicester just for the market, this is exactly the sort of interest we are after, generally we feel it has been a success.</p> <p>The discussion moved onto public toilets and FT stated that due to the costs the Town Council were very unlikely to finance another set, however, HBBC are paying the Nelson pub to open their toilets to the</p>	

	<p>public, as access to them does NOT require you to walk through the licensed premises.</p> <p>The library has a disabled toilet for library users or disabled clients and the church hall have theirs open to the public during the farmers market.</p>	
<b>7.Wakes Fair</b>	<p>RP asked FT for an update on the Wakes Fair as the last we had heard it had been moved to Weavers Springs field, FT said that due to health and safety concerns (specifically only one vehicular entry/exit point) this has been cancelled.</p>	
<b>8.Training Grant</b>	<p>The ESBF is still looking for local business to apply for training grants, the ESBF will pay up to £300 with the businesses themselves having to contribute at least £50, so for anything more than £350 ex VAT we will pay £300 and anything less than £350, £50 less than the full amount.</p> <p>If you have a training requirement for you or your staff please download the form from the ESBF website and send it to us, it's in the News section entitled Training Grants.</p>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>10.Date of next meetings</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> December 2009</b>	<b>All</b>