Peacehaven and Telscombe Regeneration Partnership Commercial and Retail Working Group Meeting of 15th July 2001

Present:Lynette Boxall, J&H Hair and Beauty Salon
Jenny Turner, J&H Hair and Beauty Salon
Roy Goodall, Telscombe Town Council
John Shervington, Peacehaven Anglers
Patricia Woods, Peacehaven Anglers
Audrey Whitney, Federation of Small Businesses
Michael Wickham, Osteopath

Minutes of the last meeting: these were not dealt with since the last meeting of the group was in November 2001 and this is an attempt to relaunch the group. Roy gave a brief history of the group and the group decided that they wanted to be the Commercial and Retail Working group of the Regeneration Partnership and not to try to form a Chamber of Commerce.

Roy also went through some of the issues that had arisen when the Commercial and Retail group had been meeting. There had been hopes of a business centre where small businesses (in particular those who are self-employed) could meet to exchange information and to use IT. There is plenty of IT available in the area now with a room at the Telscombe Civic Centre, Peacehaven Library and the House Project. A meeting was planned to get the group off the ground, but there was a singular lack of interest.

Roy also explained that the Coastal Renaissance Partnership was now defunct.

The meeting was asked what was of some concern to them as businesses in the area. Various issues were raised:

Some felt that there were unnecessary double yellow lines on the South Coast Road and no traffic warden to enforce them. However, it takes a long time to change double yellow lines; the Town Council advices and East Sussex County Council decides and does the work in batches.

There was felt to be a lack of small warehouses and workshops in the area. If people are using their home to work in they could not use more than 25% of the home.

There was also an issue with badly parked cars. Some felt that not enough houses had off-road parking at the front of properties; ie paved front gardens. It needs to be clarified with ESCC whether it is a simple matter to create a drive over a pavement or whether this raises complications.

Members of the group were told about a recent transport survey that Donald Shier from the House Project had been commissioned to do. Members asked that they could each be sent a copy.

Vandalism, especially that of bus stops on the South Coast Road was raised. It may be useful to ask the police to be present at a future meeting.

Date of the next meeting: The next meeting will be on Monday 23rd September.