



## Stamford Vision: Business

### Notes from the meeting 5.2.04

1. A discussion took place with Fiona Cowan, consultant acting on behalf of the Welland SSP researching into business networks. The work which is being done will lead to a central point of information on networks on the web which would be searchable on a number of criteria. The different types of network were discussed and the importance of tailoring them for the needs of those involved whether that is for sharing of information or potential business opportunities. It was felt in a Stamford context that there were a number of active networks and that these should be encouraged rather than setting up potentially competing ones. The sustainability of any network is an important consideration and any database is only as good as the date that it was last updated.
2. Business Awards: TH is going to meet the Mercury's editor and business editor in order to see what joint working could be established.
3. Design Competition: The judging will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February. This should be seen as the beginning of the consultation process once the winning team has been identified.
4. AOB:
  - Nadine will be organising the meeting of those who are involved in business advice to share information.
  - Andrew Harwood said that Business Link are still very interested in the idea of a business centre and that this is a project we must keep under review.
  - Benchmarking: The footfall count should take place after half term so we can have a year on year comparison. The benchmarking concept is being taken up by the Welland SSP and this will allow us to compare ourselves with other towns in the Welland area.
  - Postcode survey: The data from the first survey is to be shared and Gavin will revise the schedule to remove the question on amount spent and then we will relaunch so that it can be updated on a rolling basis.

The next meetings are 4.3.04, 1.4.04 both at 6pm at Duncan and Toplis.

Action	Individual
Organise a meeting for those interested in giving advice	Nadine
Business awards - liaise with the Mercury	Tom
Design of forward investment folder	Hugo
Forward investment folder - contents and distribution	All
Footfall -please contact Catherine with availability	Footfall team