

**Buxton Town Team**  
Ideas and Vision Group  
**SCHEDULE OF IDEAS**  
Proposed at the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2012

NB Ideas are grouped under headings in an attempt to help the next phase of dealing with them. There is no significance in the order of the groupings.

1. To make the town more legible

- a. Support the council's initiative for a "Rolls Royce" way-finding scheme
- b. Explore the possibility of temporary signposting at critical spots (outside the station etc)
- c. Establish a single "Main Street" to link the town's assets

2. Build on our existing assets

- a. Take maximum benefit from arts and cultural events
- b. Extend the season with other festivals (or conferences)
- c. Sale of local products through micro-businesses and new outlets
- d. Exploit the opportunities afforded by the surrounding countryside – leisure and adventure
- e. Establish greater emphasis on Heath and Beauty – for tourists and locals
- f. Exploit the history and fine architecture – train residents to show it off – guided walks

3. Cater for the needs of residents (especially for those with limited incomes – very urgent)

- a. Really affordable housing
- b. Retail geared to daily needs at reasonable prices
- c. Employment
- d. Affordable leisure facilities

4. Cater for the needs of visitors (they bring money into the town)

- a. Establish a retail offer related to arts, outdoor pursuits, quality clothing and fine food
- b. Equipment hire
- c. Promote a wide range of overnight accommodation
- d. Ensure access to local information (see item 7b below)
- e. Pony and trap taxi service
- f. Adequate and accessible public toilets

5. Support local traders (It was stressed that the situation was dire and help was essential. However, it was also pointed out that retail will evolve with circumstances; causing the loss of some businesses)

- a. Set up an effective lobby regarding rents, which are a major burden for many local traders.
- b. Encourage residents to shop in Buxton – especially from independent traders
- c. Provide market stalls and pop-up shops as sources of food etc and as opportunities for new businesses.
- d. Develop a business incubator for the full range of business activity (would provide premises and support for new businesses for a limited term during start up)
- e. Examine the feasibility of market stalls in both the higher and lower town with the possibility of seasonal relocation
- f. Balance business so that Pavilion Gardens is not a drain
- g. Deal with parking issues (see heading below)
- h. Assess the impact of charity shops and the concessions they receive

6. Encourage Buxton Traders (They should undertake these without the Town Team?)

- a. To adopt a common Buxton Brand to identify them from the national traders in their midst
- b. To extend the shopping day by varying opening hours
- c. To share in seasonal promotions
- d. To advertise in the Town Guide and other shared media

7. Increase footfall in the town centre
  - a. Bring the Library into the town centre (make it a real community resource with café, meeting rooms, multimedia centre etc.)
  - b. Bring the Tourist Information Centre into a more central and useful place.
  - c. Provide organised and advertised street entertainment
  
8. Parking problems (The Crescent development is going to reduce on-street parking opportunities and require parking for residents – the borough council has not yet got to grips with this)
  - a. Propose a solution to the parking for The Crescent visitors
  - b. Rationalise on-street parking and its controls (Derbyshire County Council)
  - c. Press for a reduction in the cost of off-street parking (High Peak Borough Council)
  - d. Sort out coach parking and drop off points
  
9. Learn from others
  - a. Visit more successful places
  - b. Explore innovative projects linked to exciting other places
  - c. Exploit the expertise brought to the town by the University and Buxton College
  - d. Undertake market research to inform local marketing, including comparison with nearby towns
  
10. Improve the public realm
  - a. Ensure the streets are clean
  - b. Support the Community Statement on Spring Gardens promoted by Vision Buxton
  - c. Encourage the County Council to reduce signage and other clutter on the streets
  - d. Promote the planting of flowers and trees (but sweep up the leaves)
  
11. Participate in the statutory Planning Process
  - a. Contribute to the Local Plan currently being developed by High Peak Borough Council
  - b. Develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Buxton
  - c. Plan for the best advantage to be taken from the former Nestlé bottling works site
  
12. Promote community wellbeing
  - a. Move to a new paradigm not driven by profit and the bottom line
  - b. Build a mutually supportive community
  - c. Consider Buxton's place in the wider global community
  - d. Promote true sustainability through the conservation of energy and other natural resources
  
13. Cooperate with Derby University and Buxton College
  - a. Students to undertake vocational learning within the town community
  - b. Learning labs will be established
  - c. Businesses and the wider community will benefit from students' contribution (this is not cheap labour but an opportunity for both parties)
  - d. Students may use market stall or pop-up shops to trial their ideas
  - e. Students may volunteer beyond their formal learning placements
  - f. University will contribute to Buxton Brand
  - g. Augmented Reality Project will benefit local businesses
  
14. Promote public transport
  - a. Buxton to Matlock rail link
  - b. Improve existing bus and rail services
  - c. Regular transport up and down Terrace Road to link Higher Buxton to the lower town
  
15. Promote Buxton through a variety of media
  - a. Interactive Town Team Website
  - b. Presence on Facebook etc
  - c. Cooperate with Vision Buxton on Town Guide and Visit Buxton Website