

The Rocks Bredbury ACTION PLAN

Report of the Director of Development and Regeneration

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.0 To provide an update on developing an Action Plan for The Rocks Shopping Parade, Higher Bents Lane, Bredbury to recommend visual improvements for the benefit of local people and in support of the traders at this location.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Back in Autumn 2022 the Institute of Place Management, part of MMU, produced their final reports for Stockport's eight District Centres. The reports also included series of recommendations with suggested quick wins and longer term priorities and The District Centre Manager will be using a similar approach to scope out from a stakeholders perspective what needs to be included in an Action plan to make positive visual changes to The Rocks.
- 2.2 Traders are keen to be involved and to work together with contact details established to ensure Traders and stakeholders are fully informed and able to have a voice on what goes into the

3. THE ROCKS ACTION PLAN

- 3.1 To ensure local stakeholder engagement in developing the Action Plan the District Centre Manager Richard Daniels has visited The Rocks at various times to discuss Traders views on what improvements could be made and look at what quick wins are possible as part of the Action Plan.
- 3.2 These visits have enabled the District Centre Manager to develop a Draft Action Plan to review with stakeholders to ensure it reflects the local priorities along with starting to identify lead organisations for delivery as it is important it is a partnership document. The District Centre Manager will oversee delivery.
- 3.3 An artwork proposal has been discussed with the Cherry Tree Project to create a professional piece of art in collaboration with recognised artists and young leaders of the Cherry Tree Project. This would be centred on the white panelling of the existing Cohens Pharmacy. Lease arrangements are being investigated to understand what per

3.4 Whilst the quick wins and longer term priorities within the Action Plan are specific to The Rocks Bredbury they have been grouped under the following four pillars with the same approach being adopted in the eight District Centre Action Plans:

- 1) Business Support
- 2) Physical Regeneration
- 3) Events and Animation
- 4) Vision and Strategy

3.5A copy of the Action Plan for The Rocks Bredbury is included in Appendix A.

4 Funding Allocation

4.1 The artwork proposal will need to be funded and early discussions with Cherry Tree Project have been really positive and they would manage this project. A guide estimate to complete associated workshops to ensure local youngsters and residents have a voice in the artwork design and installation will be in the region of £2,000.

4.2 There is opportunity to use Community Payback to provide free resource to tidy up areas but any additional planting of The Rocks would need funding. We Grow based at Woodbank Park have previously supplied plants for a similar size project in the region of £250.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Smaller centres such as The Rocks all have an important and broad ranging role at the heart of the local communities it serves. In addition to being retail centres they support the local economy, provide a range of services and serve as a focal point for social interaction, and essentially act as hubs for the local community.

5.2 Richard Daniels, the District Centre Manager is developing positive relationships with stakeholders and colleagues. He has spent time developing relationships with key stakeholders and has engaged with businesses and organisations to identify areas where further support and advice is required or help needed to take forward initiatives. This partnership approach is reflected in the Action Plan.

5.3 The Committee is requested to:

- a) Note the partnership approach to developing the Action Plan for The Rocks
- b) Comment on the actions within The Rocks Action Plan.
- c) Comment on the allocation of funding to the artwork and planting of The Rocks listed in section 4.1 and 4.2 and to request that the Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources approves the use of £2,250 from the Ward Discretionary Fund (Bredbury Green and

Romiley ward allocation) towards the costs of artwork and planting at The Rocks.