

REPORT FROM CHILHAM'S FUTURE DELIVERY BOARD

Since April we have ...

- 1) completed an exercise to gather opinions from key stakeholders (residents / businesses etc situated in and around the square) and plan to write a letter to all residents / businesses etc in the square and the feeder streets summarising the findings and explaining what we plan to do next
- 2) received quotes from 3 well established urban designers in respect of the community engagement phase and will be deciding which one to select in early June.
- 3) drafted an application for funding from Kent Downs & Marshes Leader programme that could provide 80% funding for the next phase of our project (community engagement) and hope to get a decision from them before end June

The exercise to gather opinions from key stakeholders will provide valuable input to the community engagement phase.

The information it has collected regarding key stakeholders opinions will highlight the important sticking points and competing interests that will need to be resolved during the community engagement phase. Resolving these differences will allow a list of specific requirements to be agreed by key stakeholders that would address the aspirations set out in the Rummey feasibility study:

- (a) returning The Square to a largely (but not exclusively) pedestrianised public space rather than retaining its current use as a congested car park, which will in turn
- (b) increase visitor numbers, encourage tourism, local crafts and businesses and the sale of local produce whilst respecting The Square's historic and rural heritage
- (c) revitalise the village whilst improving the quality of life of residents, all parishioners and visitors,
- (d) contribute to the promotion of public health and safety.

Our selected urban design consultants can then prepare a technical detail design brief for based upon these specific requirements ...

A brief brought about by the community with buy-in from statutory stakeholders

Chilhams Future Delivery Board
June 2009