

We are delighted that the Museum has opened its doors again. This is a wonderful local resource and we should all make the most of what it has to offer.

Our new Artisan bakery makes a great addition to Sun Street, and all those who are still working hard to trade in these challenging times are greatly appreciated.

The utilization of a vacant shop for the use of 3Food4U has certainly brought more life to Sun Street and has been a boon to many of its users.



Also appreciated is the upgrading of some of our shop fronts, which are always pleasing to the eye.

If you would like to know more about the Town Partnership, just email your details to **paulviolet45@gmail.com** and I'll be delighted to have a chat with you.

Wishing you all a healthy and successful return to what will be our new normal.

WATP

Waltham Abbey Town Partnership News



Good day to you and welcome back!

We thought it about time we made contact again to let you know what has been happening during lockdown.

It is obviously a challenging time for us all, and everyone has had to make some unwelcome adjustments.

The Partnership has been working behind the scenes, always looking for ways to make improvements that will benefit businesses, residents, and visitors alike.

Look inside for an update.

Whilst we have been living in this strange limbo the Partnership Steering Committee has continued to meet each second Tuesday via the Zoom facility.

The numbers joining us have been encouraging, but more are always welcome, as they are open meetings.

Various topics are discussed, and decisions made where possible.

The Partnership works in conjunction with the local Town Council, Epping Forest District Council, and Essex County Council, each of which have been in contact with us during lockdown.

1. Essex County Council contacted the Town Partnership with an offer of a small grant from the 'Locality Fund'. We agreed that this should be used to 'advertise' Waltham Abbey as widely as we could in order to attract new visitors.



After discussions it was agreed that we would use bus advertising for 4 weeks over an extensive area of Essex, North London, and Kent. Once the details are finalised our Town will appear on the rear of a good number of buses out of two particular depots.

2. The Partnership was the recipient organisation of a Section 106 grant some years ago. This money was ONLY to be used for signage and wayfinding, and to date it has paid for the now very well-known Meridian Mosaic, and for all the new finger direction posts around town. For these undertakings we worked hand in hand with the Town Council and EFDC as well as the District museum. Currently, and for a considerable time now, a specially invited committee of local historical experts has been working on the creation of a set of 7 new Historical Information Boards, depicting through graphics and words some of the buildings and constructions that once stood at or nearby the sites of the new signs. This is proving to be a massive undertaking, with the land and buildings upon which the boards are planned to be erected being in the ownership of various bodies. In order to complete this task, we are working with Historic England, LVRPA, the Abbey Church, EFDC, ECC and WATC. It all takes a lot of time.



Left: An example of what the new boards will look like.

Working with the Town Council we are currently engaged in deciding upon more ways to attract the eyes to our town.

Bearing in mind that all of the work being done is on a voluntary basis I am certainly most grateful to those who are giving of their time, energy, and expertise for the benefit of us all.