

# Orpington 1<sup>st</sup> Recycling scheme

A comprehensive recycling scheme will be introduced over the coming months with collections eventually made at source, but as an interim measure and at no cost to individual businesses BID levy payers can bring their cardboard and plastic/polythene recycling to the Walnuts for compacting from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.

Cages will be available at the bottom of the slip road just before the Walnuts Car Park for cardboard and plastics.

To use this facility call Walnuts Shopping Centre, in advance on 01689 832923 to let them know you are coming.



## What are the next steps?

**There is much work to be done by the Members of the Board, supported on a temporary basis by the Town Centre Manager and others, to get the BID ready for operation.**

The BID will build on the existing partnership between the council and local businesses to develop projects and services defined by the traders. Key issues to be handled by Orpington 1<sup>st</sup> over the next five years include improving the look and feel of the town, promoting it as a destination for shoppers and potential

investors, improving accessibility and parking, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour and introducing initiatives to reduce costs to businesses. These include a recycling initiative, which you can read more about this above. More announcements will be coming soon so that we can all start experiencing the benefits of the BID.

## Orpington Loyalty Card Update

Cargo have now signed up to Orpington's loyalty card, meaning more than 30 businesses are offering special deals to shoppers. Businesses taking part include Specsavers, Café Panacea, Subway, Bon Marche and more. Why not sign up and present the offer to your customers? With discounts available in many chains and independent shops, the loyalty card is a must have when shopping in Orpington.



For a full list of businesses taking part and available offers visit: <http://my-loyalty-card.com/orpington>

## News round up

- Work is well underway at the Walnuts Shopping Centre for the exciting mixed use development including a 7 screen cinema. The scheme also includes retail and restaurant units, a new and improved public square likely to be complete by Spring 2014.
- Final repair works to the High Street are likely to be complete by the Summer to utilise optimum weather conditions and ensure long term success.
- An Orpington 1<sup>st</sup> Showcase event will take place in partnership with the Walnuts Leisure centre on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> May.

For more information please call **Cheryl Curr** on: 020 8461 7845

April 2013  
Orpington 1<sup>st</sup> Newsletter



# Success for Orpington 1<sup>st</sup>

Businesses have approved the exciting initiative to boost Orpington town centre at the ballot in February. The establishment of the Orpington 1<sup>st</sup> BID will give them real power on the management of their town centre. The BID Company will use the levy money along with funds generated from other sources to deliver additional services to boost the town centre and its businesses.

The total number of votes cast in the ballot was 164, representing a turnout of 48%. 54% voted in favour, representing 60% of the rateable value.

## Timetable

- The legal entity Orpington 1<sup>st</sup> established from 1<sup>st</sup> April.
- Theme groups will be established to develop projects based on the BID proposal.
- BID levy bills are expected to be delivered during June. The BID levy income will therefore not be available to spend until July.
- All BID levy payers will receive a letter inviting them to become members of the company in June, this will enable them to vote at the AGM.
- The AGM will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 6pm Bromley College, Orpington Campus.



### Welcome from the BID Chairman

Orpington 1<sup>st</sup> Ltd will be a non-profit company owned and funded by the businesses within a defined area of the town – primarily the High Street.

Bromley College have donated office space at the Orpington campus (1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Bromley Online Centre) and ancillary services to include fiscal advice and monitoring, this will be of great benefit to the BID company who are very conscious of keeping down operating costs.

We will be writing to all businesses within the BID area to invite them to become a BID Company Member, and any member can stand as a Board Member and Director of the BID Company. At present the BID Company has six interim Board Members – but we are looking for more local business owners and managers to get involved, to help shape the development of the company until the election of the Board at our first Annual General Meeting. I am very proud to be stepping into the role of BID Board Chairman to oversee the early stages of the BID's development. I look forward to working with you to make the town better for business.

**Martin Price**

[orpington1st.co.uk](http://orpington1st.co.uk)

**A list of the Current Board Directors is shown overleaf**

# Orpington 1<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting

11<sup>th</sup> September 2013 – 6pm  
Bromley College, Orpington Campus

The interim board will stand down and a new board will be formally elected at the AGM following nominations. Everyone is eligible to stand as a Board Member or Board Director and nomination forms will be circulated nearer the time.



## Why not join a theme group?

Orpington 1<sup>st</sup> is looking for town centre business people to take part in theme working groups. Why not come forward and have your say on key issues for the town. Theme groups include:

### First for Customers

Focussing on promotional activities, events and marketing

### First for Look and Feel

Focussing on ensuring a good impression and atmosphere in the town

### First for Access

Focussing on travel, parking and signage issues

### First for Business

Focussing on business services and collective purchasing



### Current Board Directors

**Martin Price** - Walnuts Shopping Centre  
**Sia Bodbin** - Kenton Homes  
**Chandra Sharma** - Tangent Office Supplies  
**Mike Pavit** - Wilkinsons  
**Andy Andrews** - The Bakery  
**Kay Skelton** - Walnuts Leisure Centre

### Co-opted Members

**Councillor William Huntington Thresher-Ward** - Councillor  
**Martin Pinnell** - Head of Town Centre Management and Business Support  
**Craig Potter** - Bromley College  
**Frank Levett** - Orpington Business Forum

[orpington1st.co.uk](http://orpington1st.co.uk)

## Are you ready for China?

We all know that China is a huge market but we don't all know where on earth to start when it comes to doing business there. Until now! The Chamber is supporting "Are you ready for China?"

**Jo Johnson MP** is hosting the event, which will cover:

- A step by step introduction to the Chinese business environment.
- It will allow you to gauge how prepared you are for doing business in China. It's a free event, with lunch and 1-2-1 consultations with China trade advisors.

Please put Friday 19th April  
9am-1pm in your diary.

You can book your place at [events@cbbc.org](mailto:events@cbbc.org)

*Look forward to seeing you there.*