

**NEWS:** 31 May 2006

## **ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS TOWN FORUM WELCOMES ACTION ON LOCAL GROT SPOT**

A 'Brighten up Royal Tunbridge Wells' group set up by Royal Tunbridge Wells Town Forum welcomed the announcement by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC) that action is in hand to clear the land behind Eridge Road filling station.

Owned by supermarket giant Aldi the site has ranked as one of the worst ten town 'grot spots' in a list identified by the Town Forum.

Kent Highways recently responded positively to the Town Forum's presentation 'Highways - High Standard?' seeking dialogue and action to improve the condition and appearance of the local streetscene and environment. The land at Eridge Road was one of the sites highlighted.

David Beaver, Head of Operations for Mid-Kent Services said '*There has been much work undertaken already on behalf of Kent County Council, some is ongoing and some planned. Kent Highways Services have an agreement with TWBC until June 2006 to repair their street lights, subject to requests and work orders being placed.*'

Borough and County officers have also clarified the ownership of the sites the Town Forum drew to their attention. Daniel Bech, Chairman of the 'Brighten up Tunbridge Wells' group said '*These are all steps forward. Knowing who owns the grot spots will help us to target the right people to take improvement action. We are relieved to see action on the filling station land is now taking place and will continue to work with the authorities and to campaign for an improvement in the town's general appearance.*'

Details of the Town Forum and of the 'Brighten Up Royal Tunbridge Wells' campaign can be found on [www.townforum.org.uk](http://www.townforum.org.uk) and [www.townforum.org.uk/subcommittees.html](http://www.townforum.org.uk/subcommittees.html)

**For further information please contact**

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