

Thatcham



plans set to bolster trade

Plans have been unveiled for the redevelopment of Thatcham's town centre, a move which would almost certainly have a positive impact on the area's retailers.

At present, many local shopkeepers are concerned that shoppers are being tempted away to Newbury and Reading, but the proposed facelift could soon give them a reason to stay in Thatcham. If approved, the plans would include a new development of shopping and residential units on the site currently occupied by the

Kingsland Shopping Centre, according to Newbury Today.

A new Waitrose food store, increased parking facilities and improved pedestrian links also feature in the proposed revamp. Although the finer details of the plans are already being questioned by some, the vast majority seem to agree that changes are needed to boost trade.

"It is what Thatcham needs really," local cafe owner Piero Pagliaroli told Newbury Today.

"All the shops will benefit in the long run. It should attract a lot more people to Thatcham."

