

BID Board Meeting



Location: BID Office, Dalton Road
Time/Date – 6.30 pm, Tuesday 12th April 2022

Attendees: Paul Hodgson PH, Sandra Collings SC, Kay Bower KB, Colin Garnett CG, Allan Kerr (joined remotely) and Jenny Fazackerley JF

1. Apologies – Rowan McClure and Les McLeese.

1. Last minutes – all agreed.

- 2. Jubilee Event –** JW is organising this so in his absence CG gave a brief overview. Funding has been obtained from the Arts Council. CG has assisted with the event notification/traffic management. It is a Cando FM event not a BID event, although the BID are partners along with Barrowfull (formerly Barra Culture). There is to be a street party in Dalton Road on the Saturday.

Flags – CG is looking into getting flags to put in the Christmas tree holders based on a theme of 70 years of Barrow's history depicting events for each decade. These will have a link to the jubilee but can be used at other times. A provisional figure for a budget for this was unanimously agreed. **AK to work with CG on designing/sourcing flags.**

3. Dino Day – All going ok. The event is all set up and adverts are in place.

Easter Trail – The Wet Room have provided sponsorship with a 1st prize of £250 plus egg and dinosaur. 9 runners up will win a dinosaur egg with a baby dinosaur inside. £1.50 from sale of trail sheets will go to the Alzheimer's Association. Trail sheets are for sale in various town centre shops and the Forum. Cando FM have produced a promotional video.

- 4. Pop Up Shop Update –** The Bid have been told by BBC that they have to be out of their current premises by the end of May. The current occupant of the shop can stay until the end of May. CG has been tasked with finding new premises for the BID to have an office within the town centre. The Directors all agreed that it is important that the BID has a presence within the BID levy payers' area. Priority is to have somewhere for CG to work and for him to be accessible to levy payers. Also to have storage for BID equipment and somewhere to hold meetings. It was agreed not to continue with a pop up shop at this time as the new market project would include facilities for new entrepreneurs and that hopefully the BID could work alongside this to support new businesses.

5. See item 4.

6. **AGM Prep** – AGM is to be held virtually on Tuesday 17th May 2022. Letters have been sent out to levy payers and CG will send out links on the day for those attending virtually. CG will give a brief outline of the BID's business plan and PH will give his chairman's report.
7. **Grant Application** – CG had previously forwarded to the Directors the grant application from Drop Zone for a grant to pay for a stage at the Pride Event for which they are receiving funding from other sources. All the directors unanimously agreed the grant application.
8. **Inspiring Entrepreneurs** – CG is working with Barrow Futures Board and Furness College to try to stimulate the young entrepreneurial spirit in Barrow. 'Young' is to include age, young at heart and people new to business. As large retailers pull out of town centres this leaves gaps in the market that could be filled by independent businesses e.g. ladies underwear sales due to the loss of Debenhams and Marks & Spencer. Successful businesses like Wetherspoons can be showcased as it has diversified from being just a pub to a hotel and now has outdoor dining. It is planned to hold monthly informal meetings sat round a table with a pint. First meeting will have a prospectus that can be discussed.
9. **AOB**

CG was given several tasks to complete as a priority:

- Organising replacement BID gazebos for Dino Day as BBC have lost/damaged the gazebos that they borrowed.
 - CRM – Client Relation Management System – needs to be up and running asap. as it is planned to produce monthly newsletters to levy payers. Jason can do the admin. A deadline of completion by the next meeting was set.
 - Gateway Project – planning was rejected over an illuminated sign, but the plans are to be resubmitted with no lighting on the sign. CG was set a deadline of the next BID meeting to get the planning permission sorted.
 - Dino Day organisation.
 - Sourcing a new BID office urgently.
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- **Christmas leaflet** – AK reported that despite his best efforts and providing addresses that had not received leaflets he was not getting anywhere with the delivery company and as it was a while ago it would be difficult to prove non-delivery. It was unanimously agreed that they would be unable to proceed any further with the dispute.
 - **Crime Prevention Officer** – CG was asked to try to arrange an anti-social behaviour drop-in meeting in June.
 - **Shortage of Board members** – concern was expressed that there are so few BID members and this causes further problems when some members do not attend meetings regularly. PH asked all the Directors to think before the next meeting of some potential future BID Directors that they could consider approaching and this would be discussed at that meeting.

- **Festoon lighting for Crellin Street trees** – CG has received a quote for the cost of this. CG was asked to discuss with Optech Fibres about having a lit centrepiece above Portland Walk.

10. Date for next meeting: Tuesday 17th May 2022 at 6.00 pm – Virtual AGM. There may be a short meeting on the second Tuesday of the month.