

Barrow Business Improvement District
Tuesday 16th April 2019
Minutes of
Board of Directors Meeting
Custom House
Barrow-in-Furness.



1. Attendees Simon Craig, Phil Heath, Kieron Hart, Stephen Leonard,
Rebecca Jones, Sandra Collings, Sam Hughes, Colin Garnett, Allan Kerr

Apologies Nathan Morrow

Becks welcomed the new members and went through the recent application to join the board from the manager of Ryman's.

Action – Colin and Kieron to arrange an interview.

2. Finance See attached report.
Stephen is still trying to arrange a meeting with the Council Reps.

3. New Head of Council **Action – Simon to get more information on Samantha Plumb regarding her previous involvements with BIDs.**

4. Programme of Improvement
New draft not 100% completed yet, due to Colin having been away. Have updated the budget heading information to make easier to understand. Linking those to projects of events. Why we're doing them etc. Colin is also going to write an introduction. Colin will continue updating and will send copies out to board members. Aim to launch at the end of April. How do we get what is on the programme moved on? High street funding application went in on deadline and was heavily backed. Need to ensure that if funding is released, then we are ready to move on it, so it doesn't get moved into a Council 'Pot'. Colin now having a hot desk within the Town Hall will help with this. More transparency from the Council. How do we ensure that things get done, even if a department within the Council doesn't agree i.e.

Licensing department – Need to support Colin, letters from businesses, Public demand etc.

Need to revitalise joint partnership meetings – approaching Samantha Plumb at first meeting.

FEDF – Frustrating that all agenda items are being ticked off as completed. Need BID to be higher up on their agenda.

Licensing Issues – Colin has been having more meetings, trying to get a lesser licence fee for stall pitches for events. Currently the Council is not budging and BID are therefore unable to secure for the next two events. Relying on the outdoor market pitches for FOT and Soapbox. Currently exploring other avenues to see if we can get things in place for Christmas events.

Did find out that legally retailers can trade outside their own shops.

Alcohol on the street – Licence lapsed. **Action – Colin to contact Jim Bailey and ask for a letter of confirmation to have on the event day.**

5. Christmas Lights

Received 3 Quotes for the following:

1 Km Icicle lights for Dalton Rd and Portland Walk

Ceiling of light in the ginnel

Wrapping 21 trees in lights.

3 companies are:

Festive Lighting (National)

Field and Lawn (National)

Lumiere (Local)

Trying to use 100% local where we can.

Lumiere came within the price quotes for all except the 1km lights. (£21k vs Field and Lawn at £8k)

Need to check that Field and Lawn are offering the same warranty etc.

Council putting the tender out for a company to put the lights up.

Board voted for Colin to go ahead with the quote choices depending on the warranty answer.

Action – Colin to check the warranty. If not suitable then Colin will update the board and will not progress.

6. Visit Barrow leaflet

Colin showed the board the mock up.

Feedback was:

- Cover too green. Not going to appeal to everyone.
- Images need a rethink.
- Mentions the Turkish Cave, needs a photo.
- Photos of the Independent's
- Hotel Rooms and Accommodation
- Show what Barrow has to offer that's different.
- Images of Dalton Road and Portland Walk won't appeal.

Action – Colin and Allan to meet and discuss Improvements.

7. Soapbox

ABP ports have confirmed they are putting in a team. Glaxo won't be, struggling with morale due to the redundancy news etc.

Colin gave further insight into the update that he had already set to all board members. Furness Building society are considering becoming sponsors. 19 teams have so far entered. Cumbria Tourism have awarded BID a grant to have further promotion for the soapbox event.

Action – Look at other nearby events that we can leaflets to.

8. Festival of Transport

Cancelled using Scott Street. Cannot justify the fee price, especially when the Council are charging £293 licence to stall holders. Looking at putting the food stalls into the outside market now, and the Motorbikes will lead up to that through Portland Walk.

Board agreed to cancel the music stage and to concentrate on buskers etc.

9. Comedy Festival

Weekend of the 5th October

Sam has spoken to the Forum – running a big Charity night to raise funds for 3 local charities on the Friday Night. Forum are also going to show comedy films. Comedy Pub Crawl on the Thursday. Suggestion – The Comedians move around the Pubs.

How to work the logistics – Where can the family event be held? Approach Signal films.

Nothing planned for the Sunday at present, but will now clash with the running festival.

Action – Comedy festival to be added to the Visit Barrow leaflet.

Colin and Sam to meet and continue planning.

10. AOB

Sandra has booked an event at the Forum, 4th November. Sewing and Crafting, will have a vintage feel, afternoon tea, dancers etc.

11. Date of next meeting

14th May 2019
6pm at Winders