

Barrow Business Improvement District

Tuesday 11th February 2020

Minutes of Board of Directors

Location: SAFA, Duke St, Barrow-in-Furness.

Attendees: Paul Hodgson, (Chair), Kieron Hart, Sandra Collings, Colin Garnett, Allan Kerr, Kay Bower, Rowen McClure, Phil Heath, Drew Anderson and John Graham

Apologies: Steve Leonard (Accountant)

1. The two new Board members were introduced and welcomed to the Board.
2. **Review of minutes from last meeting**
Minutes reviewed and amended. These were agreed by everyone.
CG to publish them onto the website.
3. **Finance**
Details have been e-mailed to everyone. There are no issues for concern. PH to ask that under the heading of profit and loss that 'secretary costs' are amended to read 'admin. costs'.
4. **Business Improvement Grants**
Jules Hair & Beauty – the Board unanimously agreed to award the grant.
The Lodge – the Board agreed unanimously to the grant subject to a site visit.

CG advised that the Board should bear in mind for future decisions regarding Rawlinson Street properties that BBC has a Central Barrow Renewal Area Project for Rawlinson Street. There is currently no timescale for any development with this, but CG is liaising with the lead person at Barrow BC on this.
5. **Special Projects Grants**
CG has advised Signal Films of the decision made at the last meeting. No further applications.
6. **Christmas lights**
CG proposed extending the new cross-street lighting for a further 500m in Cavendish Street and Scott Street. The cost is similar pricing to last year with a 2 year warranty. The Board unanimously agreed to this.
CG is to have a meeting with the local suppliers to discuss the issues from last Christmas i.e. projectors, rusting ginnel lights and the tree lights.
CG to discuss the blue tree lights being kept switched on till Feb 2021.
7. **Pocket Park**
Quotes have been received for the gates at each end and quotes are being obtained for the groundworks. Discussions continue with other partners including Art Gene and Playdale. The aim is for the groundwork, gates and playground to be completed by March 2021.
Maintenance is to be discussed with BBC. It is proposed to dedicate the park to the memory

of Rory McClure and as he was a keen Rotary member and ex-mayor it is hoped that the Rotary and Barrow BC will have some involvement in the project. The plan is to include fruit trees in the park that could be used to provide food for the homeless, foodbanks etc.

8. Events

- **Dino Day 4th April 2020.**

Events will take place in several town centre locations. There will be fairground rides in Dalton Road and a ride on train at the top end of Dalton Road. It is anticipated that on Easter Saturday a dinosaur egg trail will be held with local businesses displaying some form of dinosaur egg for children to find.

- **VE Day**

BAE would prefer to sponsor/organise a larger event in the town and also feel the VE Day celebration date is too close to other large events in Barrow town centre i.e. Soapbox Challenge. BAE will liaise with the BID to organise an event at the end of September/end of the year.

As there is no budget from BAE or the BID for VE Day the street party event will not go ahead.

- **Pride Event 15th May 2020.**

Event is being supported by Barrow BID. Local businesses will be invited to make window displays supporting the event.

- **Soapbox – BAE still to confirm their involvement.**

CG is to obtain quotes for two advertising bill boards (one by the rugby ground and the other by Furness Building Society in Duke Street as part of Soapbox advertising budget).

- **Festival of Transport 11th July**

First committee meeting held last Tuesday with a bigger committee helping this year. Planning to extend the bus tour for the event this year to include Walney and the Dock Museum. Hoping to book a motorcycle stunt show for by the Town Hall. Road closures will apply to Dalton Road and Scott Street. CG has confirmation in writing from BBC Licensing Officer of the licensing costs for events. PH has met today with Barrow Market to try to involve the market in the event. Suggestions are for a model railway/engineering exhibition within the market building. The outdoor market will have regular outdoor traders plus a vehicle related food market. A mobile crane will be attending the festival. Before the next meeting the website needs updating and flyers/beer mats sourced.

- **CG to get prices for having big screens for 9 days for the Euros/Olympics.**

9. Gateway Project & Visit Barrow

The Gateway Project aims to provide totem signs, town maps and finger point posts to welcome visitors when they arrive at Barrow Railway Station (and thank them for visiting when leaving) and to direct them to the town centre and other attractions. Finger point posts will direct them along Abbey Road to the town centre with maps showing points of interest. These will be illuminated at night.

CG is working on the Visit Barrow brand with AK and is producing a new leaflet for Barrow which will be distributed in March, with a 50,000 print and distribution run.

10. Regeneration Update

- **HAZ** – PH has confirmed the BID's pledge with BBC
- CG is involved with HAZ and Future High Street and PH is involved with Towns Deal, so Barrow BID has involvement in all of the projects.

11. BID Policies and Procedures

Board members were advised that these are all internal operating policies based on advice from the National BID. It was raised that there is no complaints procedure for complaints about the Chairman – **PH to review this**. Tender policy limit agreed. PH has asked Board members to review the policies and procedures and e-mail him any amendments before the next meeting.

12. BID Open Meeting – Tuesday 18th February, 6.00 pm at The Forum.

- Business owners, their representatives, partners (Police) and Levy Payers may attend. Everyone will be asked to sign in stating who they are and who they represent. They will also be asked for e-mail addresses so that they can be given updates. They will be provided with a form on which they can ask one question and provide one idea. These will be picked out at random for discussion.
- Itinerary agreed for the meeting.
- Meeting will not exceed 2 hours in total.
- Attendees will be advised that all ideas not discussed at the meeting due to time restraints will be looked at and they will be informed by e-mail of the outcome.

13. Board Composition

PH has been looking at the Board membership and the businesses they represent. There are some vacancies but most of the areas not covered do not raise any concerns. There is one Board application still pending.

CG to update website

14. A.O.B.

CG emailed Treasure Trails co.uk regarding Barrow having a trail following a request from Barrow BC. It could bring visitors to the area. The Board agreed that it was worth looking in to. **CG to investigate further.**

15. Date for next meeting – Tuesday 10th March at SAFA