

# BID Board Meeting



Location: BID Office, Duke Street  
Time/Date – 6.30 pm, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**Attendees: Jenny Fazackerley JF, Kay Bower KB, Paul Hodgson PH, Sandra Collings SC, Jonny Williams JW, Allan Kerr AK and Jason Forsyth JFo**

1. **Apologies – Rowan McClure.**
2. **Review of minutes from last meeting – all agreed.**
3. **New Director Applications –** JF and SC have interviewed Melanie Corrie and recommended that she be appointed as a Director. At the interview she was enthusiastic, positive and showed that she had the right intentions. It was unanimously agreed to appoint her. A further candidate is to be interviewed next week.
4. **Review of Christmas**
  - **Town Centre Stage –** went well, although crowds didn't gather there, possibly hampered by the cold weather. It provided music in the town centre.
  - **Elf Academy –** this event wasn't anything special and would not be worth repeating.
  - **Craft Workshop –** very popular, especially with Dad's. Children enjoyed collecting stamps on their cards on visiting each venue.
  - **Curling Rink/Toy Testing –** both very popular. Proved more popular than trail.
  - **Crellin Street Christmas Trees –** poor support for putting up of Christmas trees in holders – only 1 put up.

## **Next Christmas Ideas/Plans**

- **Stage –** possibly in an inside venue with screens and speakers around the town centre.
- **Train –** booked for same weekend as last year.
- **Santa –** booked for the afternoon of the train running and the Saturday before Christmas – traders very happy with Santa's visit to their businesses last Christmas Eve.
- **Big Event? –** BAE have expressed an interest in partnering with BBC, BID and Barrowfull to put on a big event.

**Christmas Lighting –** some lighting failures last year. 32 sets have been returned for replacement under the 2 year warranty. About 70 sets of lights would be required to cover spares for the next 2 years. Optech to quote for these. Crellin Street lights on trees are to be installed shortly. They will be on timers and can be used outside Christmas time.

### **Extension Strategy – 3 possible areas**

- **Duke Street** – can't use cross street lighting, so companies are going to look at other options such as lamppost motifs but keeping the lighting traditional.
- **Abbey Road** – unable to use lights in trees due to their varying size and because a lot of the lampposts are surrounded by trees they can't be used. Looking at lighting Coronation Gardens and installing a Christmas tree there if the Parks Department allow this.
- **Rawlinson Street** – very difficult to do anything in this street.

5. **Social Media Update** – JFo reported that everything is going well with public engagement and more people are getting in touch either via social media or by calling in the office. The tree and window competitions attracted a lot of interest on facebook. JF congratulated JFo on his hard work on improving communications.

6. **Loyal Free App Presentation** – BID Directors watched a presentation on this product and were able to ask questions. Before making any decisions PH and JFo are looking at other options available. It was suggested that the public and businesses should be surveyed to see if this is something that would be widely used at this time or possibly sometime in the future.

7. **Shared Prosperity Scheme (Portland Walk)** – BarrowFull are currently looking to appoint an artist for the murals. PH has suggested that where possible the murals should be movable so that if a property came back into use the mural could be moved to another place such as one of the ginnels. BBC have transferred some of the funding to the BID to deliver the project. Grimefighters are to clean Portland Walk and refurbish the benches. Planters are to be supplied by local business, Lakes Gates and Tythe Barn Nursery at Dalton will provide plants. The planting is to be done as a community project including council officers.

### **8. 2023 Events Calendar**

- **Dino Day – 20<sup>th</sup> May** – some new dinosaurs and baby dinosaurs will be coming this year. It was decided not to have the storytime event again and PH will try to tweak the programme on offer because of this. Films will be shown at Forum.
- **FOT – 15<sup>th</sup> July**
- **Soapbox Derby – provisionally Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August** – PH is to have a site visit with organisers later this month. BAE have shown interest in sponsoring this event. PH has met with Orsted and they are keen to work with the BID, possibly to be principal sponsor of Dino Day and elements of FOT and soapbox derby. They have asked for an inclusive deal from the Bid to include provision of all advertising banners.

9. **AOB – Barrow Music Week** – JW has attended a meeting re the possibility of an outdoor stage in October.

**Date for next meeting: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023 at BID Office.**