

BID Board Meeting



Location: BID Office, Duke Street
Time/Date – 6.30 pm, Tuesday 12th March 2024

Attendees: Jenny Fazackerley JF, Paul Hodgson PH, Sandra Collings SC, Jonny Williams JW, John Edwards JE , Kay Kane KK and Melanie Corrie MC.

- 1. Apologies: Allan Kerr AK, Mai Harrison MH, Jo Grainger JG, Neil Hodgson NH and Simon Broadley SB.**
- 2. Review of minutes from last meeting – these were all agreed.**
- 3. Grant Applications:**
 - **Business Growth Grant Application –** Bridal House, Scott Street for renewal of signage – agreed.
 - **Got It Covered –** now have their new signs up.
- 4. Social Media Update –** Facebook and Instagram engagement are both down. Directors agreed that the current quality of the posts is not very good and needs to be improved.
- 5. Additional Resource Support/Pay Review –** it was agreed that in line with the national minimum pay increase, and in turn the Living Wage, that Marketing & Communication Coordinator's pay should be increased in line with this.

One of the Directors has suggested employing an additional person to assist with project support. Some absent Directors had been advised of this by e-mail and four have replied supporting the idea. It was unanimously agreed to advertise for a 'Project Support' person to work part-time. Hours will be negotiable with a minimum of 16 hours per week on national living wage.

- 6. Christmas Event Schedule/Festive Lighting/Light Switch On:**
 - **16th November –** Christmas Extravaganza
 - **23rd November –** Light Switch On
 - **30th November –** Shop Barrow Day
 - **7 & 8th December –** Santa Express
 - **14th December –** Christmas Market
 - **21st December –** Ice Rink and stamp card trail

Light up Christmas Present – PH is still working on this as regards to where it can be stored and discussing with the Town Council because there is a cost for installation and removal.

Light Switch On – there has been no further changes and it was decided to defer any decision on BID involvement until the situation changes.

- 7. Working Closer With Other BIDs** – one of the Directors has suggested working in conjunction with other BIDs to support each other's events e.g. subsidising transport between towns. It was discussed that this could upset levy payers by taking people out of town, but consideration will be given to looking into other ways of collaboration.

- 8. Associate Member Scheme** – information was sent out by PH to the Directors after the last meeting. As several Directors were absent at this meeting, PH asked that the Directors e-mail him their feedback and this can be discussed at the next meeting.

- 9. Barrow Buzz Business Awards/Barrow Buzz** – JW and PH are working on the awards event. The BID wants 40 businesses to initially sign up to the App before the official launch day. Invites have been sent out by e-mail, followed by reminders. The Directors were asked to contact several of the businesses who haven't yet completed their business profiles.

- 10. Event Updates** – the Batmobile is booked and the BID are supporting the Mayor's Fun Run in the Easter Holidays.

- 11. AOB:**
 - The defibrillator fitted to NH's shop at the bottom of Dalton Road is now up and running.
 - The stage trailer is due to be fitted with vinyls this week.
 - The new gates have been fitted on the storage area.
 - Seedl Business Training – PH is working on this.
 - New T Level student starts with her induction on Thursday
 - Makaton Training on Friday 15th March.

Date for next meeting: Tuesday 16th April 2024 AGM 6.00 pm at BID Office, followed by monthly meeting about 7.00 pm.