

# BID Board Meeting



Location: BID Office, Duke Street  
Time/Date – 6.30 pm, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Attendees: Jenny Fazackerley JF, Paul Hodgson PH, Sandra Collings SC, Allan Kerr AK, Mai Harrison MH, Kay Kane KK, Melanie Corrie MC, Neil Hodgson NH, Simon Broadley, Jason Forsyth JFo, Ashley Holroyd AH, Emily Baines EB and Jenni.**

JF welcomed the 2 new Directors: AH from Coffee D'Ash and EB from Tailors Bar & Lounge. She also introduced Jenni who is to start employment as a Project Co-ordinator for the BID.

1. **Apologies: Jonny Williams JW, John Edwards JE and Jo Grainger JG**
2. **Review of minutes from last meeting and the AGM** – both of these were agreed.
3. **Grant Applications:**
  - **Level Up Gaming** – Applied for a small grant towards a £24000 two day event to be held at Forum in August. They held a similar event at Furness College last year. The application was unanimously agreed.
  - **17 Sport** – Applied for 50% of the cost of new signage at the old Winfields premises in Cavendish Street. Everyone agreed to the application being granted.
  - **Century Lettings** – Application for 50% of the cost of new signage for old comic bookshop. The application was unanimously agreed.
4. **Recruitment Update** – following an extraordinary board meeting Mike and Jenni have been appointed as Project Co-ordinators and start work on 27<sup>th</sup> May.
5. **SeedI Training** – the Directors questioned whether there was enough demand from local businesses for the online training on offer. PH said that once it was set up it didn't involve much running by BID staff. An alternative of providing local training was discussed, but this would use more BID resources. It was agreed to survey levy payers to find out if they would be interested and to gauge uptake.
6. **Social Media Update** – JFo updated the Directors with the latest social media statistics. The Directors asked for more posts about local businesses between event posts.
7. **Barrow Buzz** – the App is now all up and running. It now has 1350 active users and Barrow BID was the fastest BID to sign up the first 500 users. Lunch time is the busiest time and the main age range of users is 25 to 54. 85% of the users live within 5 miles of the town centre. 55 business are active on the App and a further 9 are still to fully sign up. 40 businesses were invited to the initial launch. Further businesses will be invited and JFo was asked to take this further by aiming to target 10 businesses a week. The Business Awards are being led by JW. The Town Hall is booked for the evening of 28<sup>th</sup> June. The Town Council and Furness Building Society are sponsoring the event along with the CLEP grant and catering is

being provided by The Hive. Voting is through the Barrow Buzz App and the first stage is for nominations for each category.

On Dino Day participants in the stamp trail can download the App to find an additional sixth location.

- 8. Community Planting Day** – 10.00 to 15.00 on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May in partnership with the Council who are paying for the plants and equipment. Many local schools, businesses and other organisations are participating.

**9. Events Update:**

- **Dino Day** – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May. Taking place in several locations around the town centre, including the main arena on the town square, a second arena on Dalton Road and Dr Bones and the dinosaur hatchery outside the old M & S building. The Entertainer are holding a toy testing event and there are events inside and outside the market. The finale is at 3.30pm when most of the dinosaurs will come together.
- **Dave Day** – This is being run as a civic event for the bikers to meet and the Council are contributing money to the event. So far 2500 bikers have registered to attend, but the actual number is expected to be a lot more. Parking has been organised in several locations and there will be a food court on the outdoor market area,
- **Pop Up Crazy Golf** – Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June. An outside organisation is paid to run this event on behalf of the BID.
- **Brilliant Barrow Weekend** – Events at the Dock Museum, Soapbox in the town centre and a dragon boat at the dockside. The event has been slightly scaled back for this year, but it is planned that it will be built on for next year.
- **Pooch Fest** – This has been postponed until Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September to avoid clashing with Dave Day.

- 10. BAE Portland Walk Update Briefing** – BAE are holding a meeting at 6.00pm on Friday at Forum to provide an update on their work. The meeting is open to all BID levy payers, but they must register to be able to attend. 55 have registered so far. Meeting expected to last for about 1 hour.

**11. AOB:**

- Town centre signs for streets such as Scott Street need updating to be more generic as a lot of the businesses listed are no longer there and it is difficult to keep the signs up to date.
- SC is to hold a sewing/craft week 20 to 25<sup>th</sup> May and she is raising money for the hospice.

**Date for next meeting: Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024, BID Office.**