



## BID Board Meeting

Location: BID Office  
Time/Date – 7.00 pm, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**Attendees: Paul Hodgson PH, Jenny Fazackerley JF, Melanie Corrie MC, John Edwards JE, Jackie Maguire JM, Emily Baines EB, Kay Kane KK, Sandra Collings SC and Lisa Archer LA (proxy for Simon Broadley SB), Neil Hodgson NH, Rebekah George RG, Sharon Tate ST**

**1. Apologies: Jonny Williams JW, Ashley Holroyd AH and Garry Date GD**

**2. Review of minutes from the last meeting** – the minutes were all agreed.

**3. Board Director Applications** – Director application has been received from Rachel from Carriola Deli. The Board agreed to progress this application to the interview stage.

Resignations from the board we received from RG (due to change of employer) and EM (going to work abroad) and JM (change in personal circumstances). JF thanked all the directors for their contribution.

**4. Grant Scheme Update** – application granted for Carriola for exterior signage, equipment and energy efficiency improvements.

Completed paperwork received and grant paid to ReNew for a new staircase.

Charity grant awarded to Citizens Advice as non trading charity (50% of levy)

**5. Staffing Update** – 2 new employees has started their employment with us, Jacob and Tyler.

**6. Director Availability and Commitment** – JF said that In recent months, we have experienced a disappointing level of director support, both at our planned events and in attendance at board meetings. As requested, a timetable of events has been provided from the beginning of the calendar year so that directors can ensure their availability with the greatest possible notice. When applying to become a director of Barrow BID, attendance at monthly board meetings and supporting events are questions you were all asked at interview - this is expected as a minimum. As a leadership team, it is the role of every director to represent and communicate with their given sector. Visibility at our events is crucial to demonstrate the commitment of the volunteer team and solidify the relationship between levy payers and the BID team – our levy paying businesses need to know who their designated contacts are and how to communicate with them about any concerns or ideas they may have. The BID staff team, whilst growing, remains under significant pressure to deliver an ever expanding workload – due in large part to their success. As directors, we should be supporting them by acting as a line of communication and as practical support wherever possible. I understand that from time to time, commitments may clash, you may have holidays booked and of course you are all busy

with your own endeavours. If however you are consistently unable to find a way to fulfil your commitments as a director, I would suggest that you consider resigning your position in order to make way for someone who can.

**7. Community Planting** - Community planting day on Thur at the Town Hall to plant up the town centres hanging baskets and tubs. Running from 10am until 2pm, drop in and drop out. The Board also agreed to repeat previous years' Hanging basket/tub scheme for businesses.

**8. Event Updates:**

- **Dino Day 17<sup>th</sup> May** – This years event was a huge success. Feedback from the general public and businesses has been very positive. Several businesses in the town centre have reported their best ever trading day. Last minute sponsorship for the main arena was secured from Orsted. We are still awaiting footfall figures. The board agreed to re-book Dino Day for 2026.
- **Dave Day 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> June** – PH gave an update on the event plans. Over 1000 charity concert tickets sold so far and over 50 local traders registered to trade at the weekend.
- **Bazzaro** – ST presented an event concept to take place later this year involving multiple local creative organisations. The board agreed to support the initial concept.

**9. The Furnace Publishing House** - PH shared a presentation with the Board of a project led by the Lakes International Comic Arts to open a publishing house in Barrow town centre. This project has received both central government and private investor funding. The Board agreed a request from LICAF to set up a temporary office in our premises to assist getting the project off the ground.

**10. AOB** – PH informed the board they had been successful in securing a community allotment on Mardale Grove in partnership with the local authority to develop a sustainable way of growing plants to use within the town centre and as part of the wider community planting initiatives we are undertaking. This project will include partnership working with multiple town centre based charities and community groups.

**Date for next meeting: Tue 10th June 2025, 6pm @ BID Office**