



## BID Board Meeting

Location: BID Office

Time/Date – 6.00 pm, Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025

**Attendees: Paul Hodgson PH, Melanie Corrie MC, Jenny Fazackerley JF, Lisa Archer LA, Simon Broadley SB, Sandra Collings SC, and Sharon Tate ST.**

**1. Apologies: Ashley Holroyd AH, John Edwards JE, Neil Hodgson NH, Jonny Williams JW and Kay Kane KK.**

Director applications: Lesley from Music Academy and Jeff Dandy have both withdrawn due to personal reasons.

New application from Craig Healey, General Manager of the Holiday Inn. He is enthusiastic about the work of the BID and has plenty of ideas. It was agreed to arrange an interview with him.

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

**3. Event Updates**

- Christmas lights switch on 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> November in Barrow and Dalton. All arrangements are going fine, although there have been problems due to staff sickness and BID vehicle issues. Dalton Town Council have already asked the BID to run their event in 2026.
- Shop Barrow Day – 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Free parking and focus on small businesses.
- Christmas Tree Delivery Day – 27<sup>th</sup> November. Uptake has been very good.
- Santa Express – 6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> December. Smaller land train than previous years and a different route. Starting outside Jenny's Stitches, Portland Walk, The Bridge, Portland Walk, Stephen Street, The Mall, Town Square and the Town Hall. There will be activities at The Bridge, The Mall and the Town Hall.
- Christmas Lights – BID now has a new reindeer decoration which will be placed outside the market. Westmorland and Furness Council have provided additional funding for the repairs to the giant present to go at the bottom of Dalton Road. PH suggested that at the next meeting the requirements for lights for next year should be discussed. He suggested the purchase of a 3<sup>rd</sup> feature light which could be shared on rotation with Dalton. The Directors agreed.
- SC reported that she had complaints from levy payers further down Dalton Road about the Autumn Fest not extending further down the road. It was discussed that this is a growing event, which is solely sponsored by BAE Systems who require the event to be centred around The Bridge which restricts the area covered unless further funding was obtained. The objection was taken on board and the BID will see what can be done to make it more inclusive for all businesses next year. It was raised that all businesses were informed of the event and how they could get involved (e.g. the Scarecrow Trail), however no businesses from the bottom end of Dalton Rd responded to this.

**4. Heart of Barrow Quick Wins – SB has been supporting PH and the BID on the project. BID has been involved for some time with the project that is looking at what the town centre will**

look like in the next 5 years. Plans are being made for the intermediate 3 to 5 years whilst the main project is decided. Team Barrow has proposed that Westmorland and Furness Council, BarrowFull and Barrow BID work together to make improvements to the town centre involving projects such as deep cleaning, litter picking, community planting, events, CCTV both temporary and permanent, vinyl shop windows and addressing anti-social behaviour. If the proposal is approved the BID would be allocated a pre-agreed budget to spend on the various projects before the end of March. SB and PH are working on equipment and people plan to enable the BID to deliver on the project. The BID will look to recruiting staff initially on a 12 month contract with a view to later being made permanent. The Directors recognised that it is due to the hard work of PH and JF that the BID is being given this opportunity.

5. **Third Term Business Plan Workshop** – SB led on this. PH has proposed that the ballot closing date should be 25<sup>th</sup> June 2026. This would mean that the final draft for the BID proposal would have to be done by February and the booklet produced by the end of March. SB stressed that the Directors have to lead and deliver on the plan. He suggested that a rough draft is started before Christmas and SB, MC, JF and SC volunteered to be on the working group. An initial workshop was arranged for Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 at 2.00 pm (for an hour) at Emlyn Hughes House.
6. **AOB** – PH suggested holding an open Christmas Party for staff, Directors and regular volunteers and their families to be held at the BID Office. Date to be arranged.

**Date for next meeting: Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025, 6.00 pm @ BID Office.**