

BID Board Meeting



Location: BID Office, Duke Street
Time/Date – 6.30 pm, Tuesday 10th October 2023

Attendees: Jenny Fazackerley JF, Paul Hodgson PH, Sandra Collings SC, Melanie Corrie MC, Mai Harrison MH, Allan Kerr AK, and Neil Hodgson NH

1. Apologies – Kay Kane KK, Jonny Williams JW and John Edwards JE.

The Board were informed that there have been 2 applications to become new Directors, both are to be interviewed by JF, MC and possibly another Director.

2. Review of minutes from last meeting – AK asked for some amendments. He questioned the wording of the section on purchasing policy. JF pointed out that this was only a review of the minutes as the purchasing policy had been discussed at the last meeting and she asked AK to e-mail her regarding what he would like re-wording. No amendments were received, with the original minutes being agreed by the majority of the Board.

3. Business Growth Grant Applications:

- **Got It Covered** – application for a grant towards the cost of new signage and window vinyls, due to relocating to container unit. Unanimously agreed.
- **Discount Footwear and Fascinators** – application for a grant towards cost of new signage due to relocation from market to Portland Walk shop. Unanimously agreed.
- **Brown & Barron** – application for a grant towards new signage. As their premises is located within the conservation zone the signage has to be a traditional style which comes at a greater cost than would normally be granted to businesses outside the conservation zone. It was therefore unanimously agreed to award a lesser amount than the amount applied for.
- A levy payer based at the top end of Dalton Road had requested money towards Christmas lights outside his premises. The BID have bought lights for the top end of Dalton Road but due to the forthcoming building work in that area they can't be put up this year. The request was refused by the Board.

4. Social media update – due to staff absence this was not discussed.

5. Events:

- **Autumnal Fest** – 10.00 to 16.00 on 21st October. The event will include a pumpkin patch (small donation) and decorating, The Cave, Touchline Disco, 2 stalls offering crafts, a food demo by Tuk from the market, face painting, gaming van, stocks and alpacas. It will be a family event with minimum charges for those attending.

6. Festive Events Programme –

- **Saturday 25th November – Shop Barrow Day** with free parking.
- **2nd & 3rd December – Santa Express** – with Santa. Forum are to show Christmas films. Sponsored by BAE, Barrowfull and Westmorland & Furness Council.
- **9th December – Natural Christmas Market** – 13 stalls booked so far.
- **16th December – Stamp Card Trail** – snowboard simulator (indoor venue to be found), toy testing with The Entertainer, craft workshop at Cumbria Embroidery and Holiday Inn providing free hot chocolates. Ice rink booked for outdoor market.
- **23rd & 24th December – To be announced.**
- **Free Christmas trees and competitions as in previous years.**

7. Digital Town Hub/CRM Update – the Loquiva App name needs to be decided soon. Several suggestions have been made. The Directors were asked to e-mail PH with their ideas by Wednesday and it will then be put to a vote to decide. The CRM contract is about to be signed with Solomon, who integrate with Loquiva.

8. Barrow Business Awards – JW has suggested this. Other BIDs do something similar. It would be like the Love Barrow Awards, but for businesses and the awards would be given out at a social event next year, possibly around April time. Everyone was in favour of this.

9. Upcoming Open Meeting - October 26th at 6.00 pm. The Holiday Inn are providing the venue free of charge. BAE are to give a presentation about their Portland Walk project. The event is open to all levy payers and it was agreed to provide refreshments.

10. AOB

- **Town centre litter picking** – 2.00 to 4.00 pm Thursday 12th October. Joint venture between BAE, the BID and McDonalds.
- **Whisky/Spirit Event** – PH has had initial talks with the people who run the Kendal Whisky Festival about holding an event April 2024, possibly over 2 days.
- **Corporate Membership For Barrow Leisure Centre** – PH is sorting this out for levy payers to be able to get a discount.
- **ASB** – the BID have had damage done to the gates to their lockup and the outdoor electric sockets on the outdoor market have been vandalised. The possibility of Town Centre Wardens was discussed. Applications for funding have to be made to the Police Crime Commissioner.

Date for next meeting: Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 6.30 pm, BID Office