

Kendal BID Board Meeting

7th November 2023

Item 1 – Apologies and Attendance:

Apologies were received from Sam Butcher.

In attendance: Josh Macaulay, Tina Dulson, Denise Thompson, Kim Davies, Karl Tchumak, Jan Nicholson, Helen Ladhams, Nick Taylor, Lee Hughes and Peter Brendling.

Item 2 - Approval of previous meeting minutes

The minutes from the meeting were approved.

Item 3 – Comms Person Peter reported that a temporary admin and comms officer had done a period of work for the board which has now come to an end. The board approved recruitment of a new permanent admin and comms officer.

Item 4 – Finance and expenditure report

FINANCIAL REPORT August 2023

OPENING BALANCE
£11,370.52

INCOMES
£92,504.93

EXPENDITURE
£35,432.94

CLOSING BALANCE
£68,442.51

Item 5 – BID renewal

Peter reported That the Business Plans and the Ballot Papers should now have been posted out to all levy payers. The voting period is now live and votes cast go direct to Civica the independent ballot company. Result should be known by next meeting. Directors reported that some businesses said they were still awaiting ballot papers. Peter to chase any ballot forms which need resending.

Item 6 – Review of current projects

Festivals :

Gaming Festival – It was reported that the Gaming festival would take place between the 12th & 14th April 2024. Peter is to have a follow up meeting with Matt, the organiser, to discuss further.

Christmas Festival – At this point Peter has 12 stalls booked and is expecting more. A Santa's Grotto has also been booked. The board is looking for someone of community spirit that might be willing to be santa.

Music Festival – Josh reported the Festival had gone well and was well received. Many businesses reported record high sales. Josh said that there were lessons learned from this year and some changes would be made for 2024 in an effort to continually improve. For example the early acts got less spectators so the start time will be slightly later next year. He felt that an application for funding from the Arts Council should be made in 2024 to match fund BID's costs and therefore bring more revenue to the town. Denise suggested that the BID should raise funds for local charities by collection at BID events, the Board agreed that this was a good idea.

Kendal Mountain Festival Base camp – The board has an ambition to create a town centre basecamp in kendal marketplace to draw visitors into the town centre businesses. Agreement has been reached with the marketplace officer to allow this and it will be planned the 2024 festival as this year has already been programmed.

Discover App – Peter presented the revised proposal for the window stickers to the Board. The Board approved this proposal providing we can obtain further discount on the cost.

Training Grants – No new applications

Quarterly Grow your own business forum- Dates are to be decided on, for these to happen in January 2024. Tina and Peter to follow up on this.

Green Grants – Applications were received from:

- The Quaker Tapestry Museum for funding towards a air source heat pump, this was approved.
- About Time - for infrared heating panels, The Board felt it needed more information on how this would save energy compared to the current energy usage and demonstrate a net positive environmental impact
- Stricklandgate House – For insulation of the attic space. The Board was in principle very supportive of the project but felt that better value could be achieved with additional quotes. The board hoped that we might be able to support Stricklandgate in getting some more competitive prices. Peter to feedback to Stricklandgate with a view to getting further quotes.
- Podda & Wren – for new coffee machine. The Board felt this did not meet the grant criteria.

Shop Front Grants

- About Time put in a Shop front grant application. More information is required for further assessment of this application which Peter will follow up.

Item 7. Any new projects, submissions or funding requests – None

Item 8. BID office – Josh proposed that the Westmorland Group, take on the lease for 1 Finkle Street and then the BID could sub-let part of the space for an office. Josh confirmed that any costs that had been incurred or would be incurred would be the responsibility of the Westmorland Group not the BID and this arrangement would allow BID to enjoy all the benefits of having an office there without taking on the potential risks and liabilities of the building such as maintenance and structural responsibility. The Board agreed that this was a good way forward as the BID would not then be committing to a long term lease.

Item 9. Urgent business arising – None

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