

**St Austell BID Board Meeting**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd March 2021.**

**Present** **via Zoom:** Richard Hurst (RH), Brian Palmer (BP), Giles Bingley (GB), Martin Davies (MD), Grant Macdonald (GM), Dale Lovatt (DL), Allan Clare (AC), Roberto Cubbedu (RC) & Sean Marshall (SM)

**Apologies:** Ben Delaney (BD).

**Absent:** Clive Acraman (CA).

**In attendance via Zoom:** Annette Miller (AM).

1. **Welcome: RH** welcomed the board to the meeting.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes of the board meeting held on the 2nd February 2021 were reviewed and approved.
3. **Chair Announcement: RH** informed the board that he would be leaving on the 25th March and thanked everyone for the support they had given him throughout his time with the BID.The board were shocked that he was leaving but thanked him for his continued support of the BID and the town and wished him every success for the future.
4. **Finance:** Monthly update provided by **GB**.
   1. Income received during the month - **£5,000** levy, **£2,025** from Town Council to cover cost of COVID wardens. **£6,000** invoiced to Cornwall Council for levy. Collection rate is currently at **84%.**
   2. Expenditure this month included the following costs: COVID, Grant to 4FS, Administration and Security/Wardens. **£3,960** Invoiced to Town Council for the Wardens.
   3. A further **£9,000** to be funded by the Town Council for April, May & June for Wardens and **£2,000** for additional signage.
5. **Bank Account: GB** stated that all the relevant details were now with the bank in order for the new BID bank account to be set up.
6. **21/22 Budget:** The budget was agreed with the following amendments: **£6,000** for events and **£15,000** budgeted for re-election. **The board agreed unanimously that the BID Managers salary would be increased by 2.2%.** **It was agreed to spend £10,000 on summer planting.** **The revised budget is attached.**
7. **COVID 19:** A schedule has been put in place to redo the COVID related safety markings in the town for when businesses open on the 12th April, also to include posters and leaflets.

1. **Planting:** ASummer planting plan costing **£10,000** was proposed. **This was agreed by the board.**
2. **Meetings**: **GM** advised that the next St Austell Revitalisation Partnership meeting would be on the 4th March. **BP** made the board aware that there have been ongoing TC meetings regarding the towns ASB and that they were liaising closely with Cornwall Council on the matter.

**A.O.B**: **AM** produced the latest vacancy/independents figures from Springboard.

**Vacancy Rates**

St Austell 7.5%

South West 12.8%

Nationally 11.7%

**Independents**

St Austell 60.9%

South West 30.3%

Nationally 35.3%

These figures do not include the most recent loss of Dorothy Perkins, Burtons or Hays Travel.

**Tour of Britain.** This is being scheduled for the 5th September 2021, depending on restrictions. We have no budget for this, and it was suggested we put aside a £1,000 to purchase eco-friendly hand waving flags and a couple of banners welcoming the Tour of Britain to St Austell. **This was agreed.**

**Garden/Whitegold.** Is being planned for June but to what scale is still unknown.

**The ‘Clay Planet’ Artwork** has now been installed outside Boot’s. Paintings to be installed down the side of Poundland on the 23rd March of a flower, squares and a squiggle.

**New** location for the Shark Mural will be on the hoarding located at Chandos Place.

**Meeting closed 18.30**

**Next meeting 6th April 2021 at 5.30 pm**

**(To be held via zoom)**