

**St Austell BID Board Meeting**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2020.**

**Present**: Richard Hurst (RH), Giles Bingley (GB), Martin Davis (MD), Grant Macdonald (GM), Donna Roberts (DR), (AW), Roberto Cubbedu, (RC), Brian Palmer (BP), David Rescorla (DR), Clive Acraman (CA) & Dale Lovatt (DL).

**Apologies:** Sean Marshall (SM), Ameena Williams (AW), Kelly Fegan (KF), Allan Clare (AC).

**Present:** Annette Miller (AM) Nikki Hotchin (NH).

1. **Welcome: RH:** welcomed the board to the meeting.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes of the board meeting held on the 5th November were reviewed and approved.
3. **Coastal Communities – SABEF Update (NH):** explained that there would be a lot of high impact work for 2020. Gateways, verges, roundabouts and art installations. Project using the bricks made at Blackpool pit and work on the bee to start in June using the 10,000 tiles made by the community last year. The coastal community grant is to be use by the end of 2020.
4. **Finance:** Monthly update provided by **GB**. We have collected the budgeted amount of levy this year and there is still £4,000 to be called off. Final costs to come in for Christmas events but we will be under budget when calculated against contributions received.

Budget for 2020 will shortly be put together for discussion, any ideas or changes to the current project that are being managed need to be advised by mid-February for consideration. Otherwise the emphasis will remain on the In-Bloom Projects, Security, Event Support, Promotions, Christmas Lights and events.

1. **BID Managers Report:**

**SECURITY.**

**Police patrols.** Coast 2 Coast were stepped up during December. Begging and rough sleeping has been a problem people have been directed to the right agencies where possible. We have seen an increase in shoplifting and youth antics. The BID continues to work with the police other agencies in the town centre.

**TOWN NEWS.**

**Planting.**  We received a gold award for the town from South West in Bloom on the11th October in Newquay. We have just heard that we have been entered into the Nationals for 2020. Judging will take place between the 3rd & 14th August. There will be an announcement from the RHS week commencing the 20th January all hush hush till then.

It was also requested that anyone knowing of any groups who may like to get involved in supporting the In-Bloom project advises AM.

**Bunting**. Should go up this week. The flags in Trinity St. have been done. WRP to continue with the theme through the centre.

**PROMOTION.**

**Pirate FM.** Coveragewas constant for the Christmas period. Good coverage in the Voice for switch on. Plenty of advertising in the Voice and our Christmas flyer was send out via this as well. The new St Austell design was used on banners, signs and promotional materials.

**EVENTS.**

**Late Night Shopping:** The middle 2 late night shopping evenings were quiet; businesses will be asked how they would like to see Christmas 2020. It was noticed this year that more retailers closed at normal times and some closed early. Worth noting that with the shift in retail patterns and habits some towns have stopped late night shopping completely.

**MISCELLANIOUS.**

**Meetings.** Safer St Austell donation boxes are in the following locations: White River Fish Bar, Tengo, Wetherspoons, Polkyth Leisure Centre & Co-op. The Natural Store have also requested one.

**Empty Units.** The corner shop on Church St. has been vinyled, Smorger’s has also been covered whilst the repair work is being done. Clinton’s will also have another face lift.

1. **Coastal Communities – SABEF Update (NH):** explained that there would be a lot of high impact work for 2020. Gateways, verges, roundabouts and art installations. Project using the bricks made at Blackpool pit and work on the bee to start in June using the 10,000 tiles made by the community last year. The coastal community grant is to be used by the end of 2020.
2. **SWIB:** After achieving our gold for 2019 we have been put forward for the Nationals again after missing the opportunity last year. We will be meeting with all the agencies again to make sure that we are all joined up for the judging date.
3. **Christmas:** Banners survived very well considering the conditions they were out in. Light switch on was once again successful. It was agreed to see what other towns had done for Christmas and how they had faired. Formulate a set of questions for the businesses on how they see Christmas 2020 and bring this back to the meeting in March.
4. **Feedback from meetings:**

RH & AM attended the Town Council Meeting in December and expressed concern over the amount of ‘supported housing’ Cornwall Council has in St Austell. It was asked that the Town Council write to Cornwall Council, they agreed to do so.

RH & AM attended Safer St A meetings and more have been scheduled for January to monitor the impact of the Cold Weather Provision Accommodation CC has placed in the Town Centre at the building being run by CN4C, it currently has provision for eight people which we have been advised should be the max, however CC do advise that it could have the capacity for up to fifteen, concern was expressed should they climb to these numbers.

1. **AOB:**

**RH** Said they he would have 2 more benches should BID wish to refurbish them for use in Biddick’s Court.

**RH** Informed the board that the tarmac repairs in Biddick’s Court and Tengo end of Fore Street would be replaced with granite slabs before Easter, it would impact on businesses but needed to be done. CORMAC leading and would be contacting those affected and confirming timetable.

**RH** Confirmed the ‘Tour of Britain’ Cycle race would be coming through town in September. AS a BID we need to decide what we are going to do to support the event and to promote St Austell. – Action ALL

**BP** Stated that the bus stop at Polkyth would not be replaced/refurbished as the cost was way too expensive. Even demolition was proving to be untenable.

**MD** said Daisy Dukes would be using the old Lib Dem office as a pop up to sell off excess stock at a £1 an item.

**Meeting closed 7.55 pm**

**Next meeting 4th February 2020**

**5:30pm – White Hart**