

**St Austell BID Board Meeting**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd June 2020.**

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

**By phone:** Giles Bingley (GB).

**Apologies:** Kelly Fegan (KF), Clive Acraman (CA) & Dale Lovatt (DL)

**Absent:** David Rescorla (DR), Ben Delaney (BD), & Donna Roberts (DR).

**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 5th May were reviewed and approved.
3. **Finance:** Monthly update provided via email by **GB**. Cost for this month are admin & security only.
4. **Cornwall Council** have drawn up a contract with each Cornish BID to allow them to borrow 50% of their levy over a two-year period interest free. Ours is for £42,300 to be paid in 3 instalments of £14,100 on the 1st June, 1st August and 1st October (this equates to 50% of our levy less the government grant of £4,600). We hope we have made enough adjustments in our revised budget to manage without this loan. This will be paid into our bank in three instalments so it will be accessible if we need it. **RH** as Chair has been asked to sign the agreement with the Council. **Agreed.**
5. **Covid - 19 update.** A deep clean of the town has been agreed and we are awaiting a date. Signage will be going out this week as A1 and A3 posters. Directional and distance vinyl’s are being done for the pavements. This is an evolving situation and we will adapt, as necessary.
6. **High Street Funding for reopening:** The Government have granted councils a fund for reopening the high street. We are in discussions with the council to find out what this grant covers and how much it could be. We will be putting in an application.
7. **South West & Cornish BID’s.** Have been having weekly meetings and sharing information with each other. The reopening document was a joint effort.

St Austell has taken part in the British Bids focus group to provide insight for Bids recovery, the findings have yet to be published.

**5% government funding.** Payments to 70 local authorities will go out at the beginning of June. Two more batches will follow shortly afterwards.  They have confirmed that they will monitor the situation closely over the summer and assess whether further support is required.

**A letter** has also been sent backing UK Hospitality request for an immediate 9 month rent payment freeze for tenants, in conjunction with a mortgage payments/loan repayment holiday; both charges would be added to the end of the lease period by means of a lease extension.

1. **Bid Managers notes:**

**Security**: It was proposed that the current schedule be maintained during the lock down. Patrol levels to be reviewed monthly by the board. **Agreed to continue.**

**Planting:** Started clearing the beds/pots and planters.
All baskets ready to be hung up.
3tier is ready.
2x wall mangers for the Works are ready to go up
As soon as all beds/pots/planters are cleared I will start replanting.
Biddick’s Court will be left until the works have been finished (21st June)
Town Council have started clearing and they will be planting 2 weeks.
White Hart will have self-watering baskets and Ameena will be doing the window boxes.

**Promotion:** The Bee will start to go up in Biddick’s Court at the beginning of July and will take approximately 6 weeks.

**Whitegold** Festival has been cancelled along with the combining it with the garden festival.

**Collection** rate for 19/20 was 96% best it has ever been.

1. **Meetings:** Safer St Austell.Domestic abuse is on the increase due to the current circumstances. Town is quiet with but shoplifting still ongoing. One man sleeping in the bus shelter who is not engaging with any of the agencies. South West Bid’s, Cornish Bid’s & British Bid’s meetings ongoing.
2. **A.O.B**. **AM** asked for a vote on the signs to be used within the town. **Agreed.**

RH closed the meeting thanking everyone for attending and wished everyone well during the coming weeks.

**Meeting closed 18.10**

**Next meeting 7th July June 2020**

**5:00pm via video link.**

**(If restrictions lifted Burton House)**