

**St Austell BID Board Meeting**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 5th January 2021.**

**Present** **via Zoom:** Richard Hurst (RH), Brian Palmer (BP), Giles Bingley (GB), Martin Davies (MD), Grant Macdonald (GM), Clive Acraman (CA), Dale Lovatt (DL), & Allan Clare (AC)

**Apologies:** Ben Delaney (BD), Roberto Cubbedu (RC) & Sean Marshall (SM)

**Absent:** Donna Roberts (DR) & David Rescorla (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 1st December 2020 were reviewed and approved.
3. **Finance:** Monthly update provided by **GB**. Expenditure this month has been Covid 19, Security, Christmas Lights and Admin. Security is slightly over budget, but we are able to continue due to a grant obtained by the Town Council.
4. **Covid-19: ‘**Shop Local’ banners are being retained along with the Covid signage and are being checked on a regular basis and replaced/repaired where necessary. Footfall in White River Place is down by 43% over the year. This is similar to other shopping centres over the country.
5. **Christmas Roundup:** Lights to come down this week and bunting to go up. Christmas was as expected due to the current circumstances.
6. **Meetings: BP** attended a Town Council meeting on Public Space Management and the Town Councils strategy for the future.
7. **A.O.B**:

**BID Manager:** It was put to the board whether to cut the BID Managers hours given the Covid 19 national lockdown. Various ways to do this were discussed however it was felt that BIDS biggest asset is the BID Manager and the best way to show value for money to the levy payers in the current climate is to have a fully operational BID. It was agreed to maintain the BID Managers full time roll and not reduce it in any way.

**RH:** Our collection rate is 70% which is slightly above average. It was agreed by the board to continue with the final demand. This is in line with other Cornish BID’s.

**CA:** Made the board aware that the Chamber of Commerce AGM was overdue, this is because of the current situation regarding COVID-19 they are hoping to arrange this soon.

**BP:** Advised that the town council are working from the office.

**AM:** Information regarding grants have been put on the BID Facebook page.

**Meeting closed 18.30**

**Next meeting 2nd February 2021**

**(To be held via zoom)**