

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 5.30pm The White Hart Hotel, St Austell

Chair's Report for Year Ending 31st March 2023

Dear Members

In December 2022 St Austell BID was successfully voted back in for another 5-year term which started in April 2023. For the purposes of BID's AGM we look back over the final year of the last term.

We continued an enhanced programme of events, with thanks to the St Austell Revitalisation Partnership who provided funding to enable us to elevate the events. Sadly, the Christmas Light Switch On event had to be cancelled due to severe weather. However, the following 3 Saturday Entertainment events all proved popular and showed an increase in footfall.

Our Attractive and Accessible theme saw a boost with the town centre receiving a Gold award from RHS Britain in Bloom in the Business Improvement District category. We were delighted to receive this as a real commendation of the floral displays we organise for the town. Special thanks go to Hays Nurseries who go above and beyond to ensure our displays look their best all year-round.

Over this last year we have continued to fund security patrols and DISC. Reducing ASB has always been the number one priority for town centre businesses and as such a large proportion of the BID budget goes on this activity. Thankfully, statistics showed ASB continued to fall throughout the year. With the pro-active multi agency approach we hope this trend continues. We are thankful that St Austell Town Council also consider tackling ASB an important activity and we are grateful that the extra funding BID received from the Town Council has allowed us to maintain the security patrols at the level we increased to last year. If you do encounter any ASB, please report it via the DISC app or the 101 online form. If ASB isn't reported via the correct channels police action won't follow.

St Austell Businesses continue to be represented on the St Austell Revitalisation Partnership, this has seen some really positive work over the last year. Funding has been granted to produce a shovel ready scheme for the old car park on top of the Vicarage Place units. This is a vast space, utilised correctly it has the potential to become a USP for the town centre. The outline idea for the scheme is that of a 'rooftop garden' with the main objective being to increase footfall to the benefit of existing businesses and indeed be a catalyst for new businesses. The next step after this process will be to apply for funding to deliver it, we will collectively push as much as we can to ensure the vision becomes reality.

The BID board Directors, all of whom have working commitments, support the BID on an entirely voluntary basis and remain committed to delivering the Attractive, Safe and Vibrant objectives. The high street continues to face difficult challenges driven by the change in shopping habits and we remain committed to mitigating the impact of these by supporting businesses. Annette Miller (BID Manager) works with the support of the board on the day-to-day functions of the BID, should you be interested in supporting events, sharing ideas or volunteering to help with projects we would be very pleased to welcome you.

Kind Regards,



Contact Us:

St Austell BID

Chair

BID Directors act on a voluntary basis, giving their time to help support our town, acting on behalf of all levy payers and engaging in the decision making process of running the organisation. Supporting this, your BID manager Annette Miller works hard to deliver on the decisions reached.

If you would like to share any comments, possible opportunities, ideas or enquire about joining the board and becoming a Director please contact the BID Manager: Annette Miller on 01726 467498 or staustellbid@gmail.com

Some of the achievements in line with what you voted for as priorities for the Town Centre:

