**St Austell BID Board Meeting**

**Minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2023 at 18.00.**

**Present:** Dale Lovatt (DL), Martin Davies (MD), Bill Holland (BH) & Sean Marshall (SM).

**Apologies:** Allan Clare (AC), Dexter Lawrence (DLA), Gillian Mullany (GM) & Piers Thompson (PT), Cllr Tom French (TF) & David Rescorla (DR).

**In Attendance** – Annette Miller

1. **Welcome & Apologies: DL** Welcomed everyone to the board meeting.
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of the board meeting held on the 4th July 2023 were signed off as a true and accurate record.
3. **Finance:** Monthly update provided by **DL** 
   1. Income to date (6th April 2023 – 5th September 2023) is £112,346.05 including voluntary contributions and funding from St Austell Town Council on shared initiatives.
   2. Expenditure to date on core BID themes including, events, publicity and town support is £39,512.89 with a further spending of £16,929.59 on administrative costs which include £1,226.93 depreciation on BID assets.
4. **BID Managers Roundup - AM**

**Town News**

The town has been looking noticeable dirtier and has done for some time now. I have therefore made a complaint into Biffa/Cornwall Council, we are awaiting a Town Centre walk around to highlight the areas in most need of a deep clean and the areas that are being missed on what should be the daily litter picks. Hopefully this will be resolved, and the Town Centre starts to look cleaner very soon.

**Events**

We have the following events planned for the rest of the year:

31st October Zombie walk (publicity and in-kind support)

25th November Light Switch On – A full programme including rides and live bands.

x 3 Christmas shopping Saturdays/ Entertainment – We have a full programme of daytime entertainment, including free rides, market stalls and CHAOS radio broadcasting.

**Marketing**

We continue to promote the town and the businesses within on social media platforms, the town centre website and the new wall mounted poster boards sited around the town centre.

**Security**

Monthly meetings continue with the Police, Town Council, ASB worker, Cornwall Council. All are pleased with the way we are handling our towns ASB and welfare challenges albeit at a substantial cost to both the BID and Town Council. 4 cases homelessness have been reported to Street Link this month and as far as we are aware they have been given emergency accommodation. Our crime rate is still down.

**Funding**

St Austell Town Council have very kindly increased their funding for security and this cost is now split 50/50 between us and the Town Council, we are grateful to them for their support on this important initiative. The patrols along with the CCTV, Store Net Radio System and Disc reporting app allow us to keep on top of ASB as far as possible and within our control.

We have made a request to the Town Council to increase the level of funding they currently pay towards the Christmas Lights. Starting a new 5-year contract with the supplier and installer we are asking for a 50% contribution, which equates to £12,250 per year for the 5-year term. This will be decided by the Town Council on the 11th September.

Sadly, Cornwall Council’s Shared Prosperity Committee/Department have rejected our second application to the Growth/Levelling Up Fund. – This was to try and get funding towards more events in the town to aid in increasing footfall. We will keep an eye out on other funding pots and apply as and when open for applications.

We managed to generate a small income, as we hired out the stage to Trewoon during the summer for. We continue to get enquiries for hire outs, the problem we have is transportation.

Our events budget is low this year due to cessation of the funding pots that were available during and after COVID. We must now revert back to the level of spend previously and as such events will reduce in number.

1. **St Austell Revitalisation Partnership:**

Please see the links below:

Masterplan.

<https://www.staustell-tc.gov.uk/_UserFiles/Files/Revitalisation/Masterplan5.pdf>

Minutes from the Revitalisation Partnership meeting 1st August 2023.

<https://www.staustell-tc.gov.uk/_UserFiles/Files/_Minutes/166730-1st_August_2023_-_Minutes_v2.pdf>

1. **Meetings/AOB:**

***MEETING CLOSED AT 18:50***

**Board Meeting - Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 17.30, Burton House**