

Minutes of Meeting

Bute BID Board Meeting

Date: 14th June 2023

Location: Bute Fabrics 5.30pm

Attendees:

Jennifer Dougal (JD)
 Willie Glen (WG)
 Sara Goss (SG)
 Lesley Paul (LP)
 Erin Murphy (EM)
 Duncan Martin (DM)
 Fergus Murray (FM)
 David Adams-McGilp (DAM)
 John Weir (JW)
 Alayne Byers (AB)

Points Discussed	Follow Up
1. In John Glen’s absence JW welcomed everyone and gave apologies for those not in attendance – John Glen, Sophie Reid, Alistair Forsyth – came in halfway through	
2. No declarations of Interest offered	ALL BOARD
3. No one had any comments to follow on from the Minutes of May’s Board Meeting.	
4. Fergus Murray – Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pavilion – work is continuing, - Scottish & UK Government in discussions examining the possibility for work on Rothesay, such as: - costs for demolishing Albert Pier and deciding what is best for that location, - costs for demolishing the old Academy building, there has been interest in this site from the private sector, also Fyne Homes are looking at the whole site for 50 family homes. 	
5. David Adams-McGilp – Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advised we need to communicate more with Cathy Craig, she has not had any feedback from the Board regarding the Wild About Argyll website, except from AB 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SG commented that she has given feedback also but may have been seen as coming from her personal business rather than the Board, SG to re-send. - It was advised that Cowal are partnering more with their activities and accommodation etc. this is what visitors are now looking for and pay a premium for - Informed the Board that Scotrail are running their children for £1 and this is proving popular. - Avanti are promoting Glasgow in their London to Scotland Campaign. - Lauren Purney of Visit Scotland is working on 'Made for Cycling' map and campaigns. - Advised that marketing to the USA market is rising, online partnerships with Expedia etc. This is good for Bute in that the Americans would arrive in Glasgow Central when travelling by train. - EM suggested we it might be worth looking into a 'luggage hold' on Bute as a lot of accommodation providers have guest check-ins from 3pm. 	
<p>5. Manager's Report was circulated by email and seen by all</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JW attended STP Cross Party zoom, Love Local campaign is going well. - "Can you buy cigarettes and alcohol using the Love Local voucher" was put to FM, the vouchers can be used for anything in the shop, there is a team monitoring the details of the voucher spend. 	
<p>6. Finances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No issues were raised on the finances sent out. - EM suggested we put budget related question on the website, EM and LP to discuss. - JW advised that we need to have the next budget ready before 1st October 2023, we need to begin work on that. 	<p>EM/LP ALL BOARD</p>
<p>7. Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SG advised we are looking into costs for Direct Distribution to distribute a trifold in the Edinburgh & Glasgow areas, a Royal mail leaflet drop and possibly the Glasgow sleeper route, we are trying to encourage people to give us their events so we can advertise. - JW advised it is time consuming to source photograph for postings etc. if anyone is out and about and has good photographs send them on to Alayne for content. 	<p>SG / AB ALL BOARD EM</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Still nothing has happened with a Survey, EM to send the survey questions to the Board to look at and then it needs to go out. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JW to speak to Cathy about B&B tie up packages and authentic experiences. - JW advised BID cannot take the lead on Business Rates, businesses need to do this directly we can only suggest agents that can help. - FM confirmed this is not a matter for the BID, advising national bodies are campaigning at Government levels. BID has a right to raise the issue with the Council, but no class action can be taken. 	<p>JW</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EM requested it would be good if BID could have a better understanding of the rates and relief. JW to write to Fergus Walker for this. - SG advised that the BID has been expressly asked for help with the increase in the NDR especially at a time where businesses were affected after Covid and energy costs rises. She advised that there is a knock-on effect for extra costs if properties lie empty in that they must pay these rates (even if up for sale and empty) and that increased NDR's also can increase water rates if your business is not on a meter. 	<p>JW</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AF advised that the Port Bannatyne toilet facility needs some work done, Bute sees a lot of cyclists and they tend to stop at these toilets. Also, there is 150 yachts not coming into Rothesay as there are no toilet and shower facilities. JW advised discussions with Tom Murphy are ongoing and he has suggested Donald McPhee to help if needs be at their cost. JW also advised that the Rothesay Harbour Master and his team inspects the Rothesay toilets, and they are not too bad. 	<p>JW</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bute Berthing & Marketing, JW advised waiting for contract and costs, discussions are ongoing. - SG advised there has been comments on social media about the Victorian toilets being damaged / broken, these require someone to look after them. She offered to get some historical input from previous Trustees and report back. 	<p>JW</p> <p>SG</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FM advised that the Council have received no money to run the public toilets and it would be good to create a job for someone. - JW advised that there is a delay in putting the flowers out this year, there was a mix up with the flower order and the weather is said to be too hot to plant the flowers currently. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WG asked for an update on Childrens Corner. JW has had sight of the agreement and questions such as 	<p>JW</p>

<p>health & safety insurances, funding for maintenance etc. JW will go through & circulate to the Board; paperwork only received last Friday (9th June 2023). JW also received the contract for painting the railings, a few amendments are required and if everyone is happy this can be signed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JD asked about further sector meetings, this is for the Board Members to organise as per their sector, SG & AF are planning hospitality and activity for July 12th. JD feels it is important to get these done and is happy to attend any if required. - DM asked if the fair was coming to town this year and is there any way BID can help them with travel costs etc. AB to find out dates from Chris Kinloch. - EM suggests this be something we ask the levy payers opinion on in the survey perhaps also about giving money to community groups. 	<p>ALL BOARD INVOLVED</p> <p>AB</p>
<p>THE MEETING ENDED.</p>	