

Minutes of Bute BID Board Meeting

Date: 17th Dec 25	
Location: 5.30pm - Remote	
Attendees:	
Duncan Martin (DM) - Chair Reeni Kennedy-Boyle (RKB) Phil Prentice (PP) Jim Brodbeck (JB) Ian McCulloch (IM) Fergus Murray (FM) Kirsty Durrant (KD) Jill Devlin (JD) Lindsay McNaughton(LM)-guest from Robertson Construction	
Apologies for Absence: N/A	
Declarations of Interest: None	
Minutes of previous meeting of 19th Nov 25 - approved	Actions
1. Welcome and Introduction DM confirmed as Chair and IM as vice chair DM thanks for attendance to first meeting as chair, gave background to membership and welcome to new directors PP gave background and experience Round table introduction	
2. Presentation from LM regarding supporting Bute on construction skills and SME contracts (joined 5.30pm-6pm) Business growth program In partnership with Fife Council – 3yrs SME Micro Business Initially for construction or services providers - Fife rolled out for other business sections Sustainable wealth building and keeping pound local 8wk program, $\frac{1}{2}$ day attendance – Business Growth Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - leadership and management - strategic planning - tendering and procurement - contract law and negotiation - sustainability - brand strategy inc id who a business is Specified consultants involved Build and connect – construction partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - feedback on business development - local opportunities - live examples One to one with businesses to all a private conversation to talk about specifics with business partners Celebration event - presentation of what learned and future plans	Add to agenda of next meeting for feedback and any next steps

<p>6mth follow up – reviewing growth, turnover, revenue Attendees selected by Robertson Funding - fully funded by Robertson - Co-funded - the total cost for the course is £12k</p> <p>RKB – how could we guarantee attendance, good to explore FM – to discuss the Robertson initiative with Business Gateway as construction and hospitality are growing sector KD – lets look if this can be widened DM – further discussion with KD, PP, DM to discuss next steps Thank you to LM for joining this meeting</p>	
<p>3. Brief Project Update</p> <p>Update from Argyll & Bute Council:</p> <p>KD</p> <p>Playpark – report before the end of the year on samples taken, review at next meeting</p> <p>FM</p> <p>The Royal Hotel – positive announcement, moving at pace with restoration and fit out to the ground floor to inc a lift and use of the upper floors TBC. Thank you to George Hanson and the UK government</p> <p>Pavilion – progressing, opening planned for May 27, conference potential there has been interest shown by the Scottish Government - FM to feedback</p> <p>Albert Pier – progressing</p> <p>School Demolition – progressing</p> <p>Shop Front Development - discussed</p> <p>Active Travel Routes – discussed</p> <p>Seasonal Update – JD</p> <p>Three successful events – Halloween, Lights Switch on and Late-Night Shopping</p> <p>Great Feedback</p> <p>Quiet Santa</p> <p>Late night shopping – great turnout in bad weather</p> <p>Cost - budget £3k, actual £2.6k</p> <p>Donations made to participants</p> <p>Great team effort special thanks to Laura Maxwell, Rachel and Alayne</p>	<p>Update on report</p> <p>Conference update</p>

4. Budget and management accounts See draft which was issued with minutes, PP met with Jim Ross and management accounts will be provided in Jan and will be included in the board minutes	
5. Media and Marketing Strong relationship with the press to continue, Jan newsletter to be issued and then regular issues	Issue Jan 26 newsletter and agree frequency schedule
6. Lighting Festival IM – lighting festival with a market, with the offer of free accommodation on the island via a raffle Marque with stalls from local shops, food stalls, mulled wine - discussed streetlight connections and businesses sponsoring a light, Lochgilphead raised £20k locally Shoulder events and plans for new year Events Calendar required RKD Funding options to consider – SSE, Mount Stuart Trust, Saputo, Bute Community Council	Events calendar required
7. Forward Planning and Resourcing Board agreed on JD as the interim coordinator through to Sept 26	
8. Board Agreed the board as listed on tonight's minutes was adequate, two publicans have agreed to work with the board on specifics as required	
9. AOB DM-Director Training Packs to be issued JD – Trees of giving project feedback thank you to the organisers RKB – attended event at the Discovery Centre, 10years of the refugee resettlement program, 200 attendees from Argyll and Bute, a film which depicted the program which Bute was recognised as the pioneer and most welcoming DM – CalMac's proposed maintenance program and the removal of ferries from the schedule for 6hrs per week which is a concern for all users especially those needing to leave the island for livestock markets etc. PP – a request has been made regarding the maintenance of the gardens on the front	Issue director training packs - JD

The meeting closed at 6.45pm