

EVENING ECONOMY GROUP MEETING – WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2014 – BONNY BOAT PUB

MINUTES

Present: Kathryn Shillito, Chair (**HullBID**), Mark Andrews, Melanie Toogood (**HullBID**), Dave Forster (The Welly Club), Deborah Simmonds (The Welly Club), Linda Levantiz (Bonny Boat), Sue Beer (Rumours/Lizard/Riddlers), Robert Jackson (Trinity Bar/Star of the West/Burlington), Melissa Green (Garbos), Joe Aukett (Three John Scotts), Liz Wood (Admiral of the Humber), P Smith (Divas/Moderation), K Woollas (Ye Olde White Harte), Emma Thorley (William Wilberforce), Wayne Mason (Sugar Mill), Kevin Priestley (Hull City Council)

Apologies: Mike McKay (Position), Gary Parker & Ian Goode (Humberside Police).

1. PREVIOUS MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING:

Kathryn talked through the minutes from the previous meeting held on 6th November – agreed.

2. STATE OF TRADE

- Sugar Mill – Steady but had a few cancellations of Christmas parties
- William Wilberforce– Seen an increase on year on year
- Welly – Same as normal but doing well on gigs.
- Lizard Lounge – Not as many bookings for Christmas however, bigger groups bookings.
- Admiral of the Humber – Picking up, especially breakfast & lunch.
- Moderation – Quiet especially on evenings.
- Garbo’s – Busy until 9pm when stopped doing food (busy during Victorian Xmas event)
- Manchester Arms – Good, people parking in the free car park and walking across
- Trinity/Star of the West/Burlington – Up on last year. Slowly improving.

All agreed not much increase due to Christmas light switch on – felt too late in day. KS will feedback to Hull City Council.

3. IAN GOODE – POLICE UPDATE

In Sgt Ian Goode’s absence Kathryn fed back information he’d provided by email:

- Please inform the licensing department if you have any Christmas parties of note booked in that fall outside Friday and Saturday nights that you feel the police need to be aware of.
- Early indication is requested when customers become too excitable through alcohol consumption so that any potential problems can be dealt with at an early stage
- December sees a sharp rise in the amount of people taking recreational drugs so the passive drugs dogs will be operating every weekend and across the whole city. If premises want them to carry out a visit at specific times or to check certain individuals, requests can go through CCTV or the Public Order mobile 07551 685650.
- The December drink/drive campaign has been launched and posters are available to be displayed in premises and should be circulating shortly. Please contact Mark Andrews at HullBID for posters.

4. LOWGATE CLOSURE

Kathryn informed the group that Hull City Council are reviewing whether or not to close off Lowgate to traffic during busy periods (Bank Holidays/Saturdays). The council/Police carried out this exercise around 2-3 years ago over a couple of bank holidays. At the time HullBID questioned surrounding businesses and there was mixed reaction – some like the idea, others not. At today’s Eve Econ meeting those present felt that it was a good idea to ensure that

safety and wellbeing of visitors was paramount. It was noted that Taxis would need to relocate onto Alfred Gelder Street. Kevin Priestley stated that he was pleased with the feedback following the closure trials and felt that it was the 'right thing to do'. Kevin has met with the Highways Agency to discuss next steps and is in the process of costing. Kevin stated that most likely scenario would be removable bollards with the police taking responsibility for removing/replacing.

5. PURPLE FLAG WEEK

Kathryn explained that we are still awaiting the outcome of the recent Purple Flag inspection. A decision will be reached early January 2015.

6. HULLBID update

Victorian Christmas

Footfall of around 15,000. Kathryn stated that HullBID made a £5,000 investment towards this event.

50% of businesses saw a 25-50% revenue increase

21% of businesses saw a 70-100% revenue increase

100% of businesses would be happy for BID to re-invest in this event

Christmas in Hull website (www.christmasinhull.co.uk)

Our website has over 8000 viewers and is a free advertising tool - a great opportunity to showcase any offers you may have. Please contact Melanie Toogood (Business Liaison Officer) on 07889 720625 if you need any support with this.

Elves Christmas Market with Live Reindeer – 13 December

A festive, 30 stall Xmas market with elves and reindeer will take place on King Edward Street. The event is a collaboration between HullBID and the Trinity Outdoor Market organiser Julie Buffey.

Holy Trinity Live Nativity event – 20 December

As previous years, this will see a live donkey/animals meandering their way through the city centre calling in at shopping centres en route to Holy Trinity Church. The event will be supported with an indoor market in the church, carol singing etc. The city benefits from increased footfall when this event happens.

7. HULL CITY COUNCIL – UPDATE

Public realm work within Trinity Square is anticipated to be completed by October 2016. All key City of Culture areas design work is underway. Potentially some trees within Church yard/King Street area will be removed – this is yet to be decided. Hull City Council will be sending out mail shots to businesses that will be affected.

There will be closures on Dagger Lane and Fish Street due to Castle Street works which commence in 2015 (TBC). The successful contractor will contact individual traders with regards to deliveries and closures.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- None

9. DATE/TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

29th January 2015

Thank you as always to The Bonny Boat for hosting the meeting and providing the coffees. It is much appreciated.