

# Hull City Centre (BID) Ltd Board Meeting

# 34-38 Beverley Road, Hull Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010

#### **Present**

Victoria Jackson (in the Chair) Kingston Recruitment

Steve Trynka Rollits

Ian Kelly Chamber of Commerce

Peter Barber Prospect Centre

George Tambaros The Omelette Restaurant

Kevin Priestley Hull City Council

Jim Harris St Stephens Shopping Centre

Steve Allbones KCOM

Cllr John Robinson Hull City Council
Paul Gregory Leonardo's
John Holmes Hull Forward

In attendance:

Richard Duxbury Mail News and Media Kathryn Shillito Hull City Centre BID

Phil Ascough XD Network

Insp Lee Edwards Humberside Police
Nick Pontone (Company Secretary) Chamber of Commerce

**ACTION POINTS** 

#### 1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mike Killoran, Steve Tradewell and Janet Reuben.

### 2. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010 were agreed as a true and correct record.

#### 3. Matters arising

<u>Council re-structure</u> – Kevin Priestley reported that Trish Dalby had been appointed as Hull City Council's Corporate Director for Neighbourhoods; John Redman had succeeded Nigel Richardson at Children & Young People and Pauline Davies had become Housing and Regeneration Director. The Board asked whether the new Director or Mark Jones would have lead role for relations with business and the BID. The Chair asked Kevin Priestley to clarify this and email Board members.

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<u>Clipper footfall</u> – Kathryn Shillitto reported that footfall had risen 17.4% compared to last year and that the figures had been shared with the Council and VHEY as part of the evaluation of the event.

<u>Charity fundraising</u> – the Board expressed concern about the number of charity collectors operating in the city centre, especially in the Whitefriargate area. Whilst the Board were sympathetic to charity fundraising, it was felt that the number of teams hired by major national charities was reaching saturation and could put off potential visitors to the city centre. Kevin Priestley reported that only fundraisers that were taken cash from members of the public were regulated by local authorities. Professional charity fundraising team working for a number of different charities collected contact information or bank details, not cash, and the Council therefore had no powers to regulate them. It was suggested

whether the Council could pass a bye-law to regulate such activity, and the Board formally asked Cllr Robinson to explore the possibility of such a bye-law which would enable the professional fundraisers to be better managed.

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<u>Queen Victoria Square</u> – Kevin Priestley reported that the work to light public buildings in Queen Victoria Square had been completed. The lighting would be turned on at the same time as the Christmas lights turn on in the city centre on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November.

<u>River Hull footbridge</u> – John Holmes reported that the new footbridge over the River Hull was still on track for completion in December 2010. Hull City Council would be seeking an operator for the food outlet on the bridge.

<u>Bondholder scheme</u> – John Holmes reported that Hull City Council had agreed to fund two posts to support the bondholders scheme for three years as a standalone company. He confirmed that all contributions from business would continue to be invested in marketing activity for the city. Jim Dick would be putting together a new Board. The Chair highlighted the BIDs interest in being involved to ensure co-ordination of activity and events in the city. Kathryn Shillitto has written to Jim Dick expressing an interest.

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<u>JBL Leisure</u> – it was noted that the legal dispute with JBL Leisure was ongoing. The BID had a made a further offer to settle the matter and a response was awaited by 4<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

#### 4. BID Directors

The Chair welcomed Paul Gregory to his first Board meeting and members introduced themselves.

The Chair reported that she had received a letter of resignation from the Board from John Holmes due to the closure of Hull Forward at the end of September. The Chair thanked John Holmes for the contribution he had made to the BID, and the city more generally, and wished him well for the future.

The Chair reported that she and Kathryn Shillito had met with Cheryl Kitching, the Manager of Marks & Spencer in Hull. It had been a very positive meeting and the Chair proposed that Cheryl Kitching join the BID Board. Directors welcomed the opportunity to improve links to one the city's flagship retailers and it was agreed to invite her to join the Board.

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Paul Gregory highlighted the importance of ensuring the BID Board was properly balanced between retail and non-retail with a healthy representation of independent traders. Steve Trynka suggested the BID newsletter could be used to highlight future opportunities to join the Board. It was agreed that a press release be issued to include the appointment of both Cheryl Kitching and Paul Gregory to the Board.

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<u>Annual Return</u> – referring to correspondence that directors had received from Companies House, George Tambaros asked whether all of the relevant paperwork had been filed. The Chair reported that the letter received was reminder to file the BID Annual Return and that this had been done by the Company Secretary immediately after the letter had been received.

#### 5. BID Renewal Issues

The Chair and Ian Kelly updated the Board on the last meeting of the Working Party into the BID renewal ballot. Due to the significant uncertainty surrounding local economic development and regeneration activity, the Working Party recommended that the BID renewal ballot be held in October 2010, not March 2010 as originally envisaged. This was agreed.

Kathryn Shillitto introduced Phil Ascough from XD Network who had been appointed by the BID to support PR and marketing activity. They made a joint presentation to the Board on the revised plan for BID renewal. This included a redesigned newsletter and website taking on board the feedback from city centre businesses; a strong Christmas campaign; and targeted visits to key levy payers. The renewal campaign would have the benefit of a

strong track record of BID achievements.

The role of BID directors was discussed in supporting the campaign. It was agreed that a 1 page briefing note be produced to assist Board members consistently talk about the key messages and achievements.

The Board also felt that it was important that councillors were aware of the BID and its key activities. It was agreed that the newsletter would be circulated to all elected members of Hull City Council.

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A number of other suggestions were made for presentations to bondholders, Hull Business Forum, the Chamber's Area Council etc and it was agreed that these would be included in the programme. For the benefit of new directors, Kevin Priestley reminded the Board that a successful ballot required by 50% of rateable value in the BID area and 50% of votes from eligible non-domestic rate payers.

#### 6. Finance

The 11 month accounts to 31 August 2010 were noted.

The Board discussed the position regarding Hull Forward's financial contribution to the BID which had been a £50k per annum in capital spending for each of the five years of the BID. John Holmes noted that all outstanding invoices had been cleared by Hull Forward and Kevin Priestley added that the remaining allocation of £48k was subject to the outcome of the Council's Capital Review. The Chair asked Kevin Priestley to keep her and the BID informed about the progress of the Capital Review.

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# 7. Bid Managers Report

The BID press log was tabled and a number of positive articles about BID projects and activity were highlighted.

Peter Barber reported on the last meeting of the Marketing Committee. He reported that the refreshed newsletter and website had been discussed and also reviewed the successful YUM festival. Future activity included Dine Week in October and the Christmas campaign including light switch on which would take place on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2010.

# 8. Hull City Council City Centre Report

Kevin Priestley updated the Board on Christmas lights; Paragon Square improvements which were part of the Capital Review and 'Half Past the Weekend'. Paul Gregory reported that 'Half Past the Weekend' had been very successful and was being showcased as good practice to the Institute of Community Cohesion at a visit they were making to Hull.

Insp Edwards gave an update on how the BIDs resources were being utilised to support safety and security activities. The Board discussed the potential impact of public spending cuts on city centre policing.

Kathryn Shillitto reported that safety and security was the top priority in a survey of levy payers. She also updated the Board on the potential roll out of a property marking scheme for city centre businesses.

## 9. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

# 10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be at 10:00am on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 34-38 Beverley Road, Hull.