



EVENING ECONOMY GROUP MEETING – THURSDAY 6TH MARCH 2014 – BONNY BOAT PUB

MINUTES

Present: Kathryn Shillito, Chair (HullBID), Mark Andrews (HullBID), Carl Conway-Davis (Lizard Lounge), David Forster and Deborah Simmonds (Welly), Chris Birch (Fruit), Jackie Snow (Leonardo's), Sally Hull (Hull City Council), Paul Bateman (Kings Bar & Lounge), Paul Smith (Moderation), Ashley Gregory (Lyrics), Jenny Coombes (Freedom Festival), Melissa Green (Garbos), Jamie Purves (JD Wetherspoon), Andy Rollin (247 Security), Fiona (George Hotel), Vanessa Reed (Citysafe), Leila Bolton and Claire Bennett (Punch Hotel), Phil Woods (Ibis Hotel), Rob Jackson (Trinity Bar/Burlington/21), Sgt Ian Goode (Humberside Police), Gary Dixon (Hull City Council Anti-social Behaviour Team), Mike McKay (Position), Mark Fleming (65 Cars Ltd), Wayne Mason, Dan Thompson and Helen Lyon (Sugar Mill), Kerrie Woollas (Ye Olde White Harte), Mark Willoughby (Hull City Council Environmental Health Team), Dennis Wann (Sailmakers), Linda Levantiz (Bonny Boat), Sarah Jeffery (Ruby Lounge), Karl Jeffery (Rumours).

PREVIOUS MINUTES/MATTERS ARISING:

Minutes approved – no matters arising

STATE OF TRADE:

The group generally felt there was no improvement from January in terms of revenue and footfall. Still issues around pre-loading.

HULLBID UPCOMING EVENTS (BRINGING FOOTFALL TO THE CITY)

- **Edwardian Easter** – 19 April - in conjunction with the Streetlife Museum down High Street. Similar to Victorian Christmas event which drew around 10,000 in footfall; surrounding businesses reported excellent trading.
- **HullBID Fashion Week** – 26 April to 3 May. A week of activities culminating in a grand Fashion Finale at the City Hall on the 3 May. To date, over 25 BID member retailers are participating. Website under construction but visit www.hullfashion.co.uk to see the 2013 event.
- **BIZ Week** – 2nd to 6th June – where businesses host mostly free events and seminars that benefit business; anything from a speed networking event to how to maximise business through social media. Visit www.bizweek2013.co.uk to get an idea of how the week pans out (new 2014 website under construction).
- **P1 Powerboat Race** – 21 and 22 June – will again be hosted in Hull. The boats will race from the Deep upstream for about half a mile so spectators will head to the pier/marina areas to get a good view. HullBID is meeting with the organisers to discuss sponsorship opportunities.
- **VHEY Brochure for Conference / Events Delegates** – the brochure will provide information (including map etc) to attendees of major conferences and events in the area with a good shelf-life. HullBID is working with retailers to offer a discount; a tear off voucher will be added to the brochure. Contact Kathryn to be involved.
- **Yum! Festival of Food, Drink, Music** – 7 to 9 August – hoping to expand to other areas of the city and build an international culinary theme. Live music and cooking demonstrations will all feature.

- **Hull Trinity Music Festival** – 26 to 28 September - HullBID organised event featuring live music in the old town. Hoping to secure Arts Council funding to expand to Princes Dock Street.
- **Purple Flag** – the Purple Flag group has reconvened ready for re-assessment in September 2014. The accreditation is reviewed yearly and inspectors will visit the city. All businesses are asked to support Purple Flag and its values.

ENVIRONMENTAL NOISE – FEEDBACK FROM SALLY HILL AND MARK WILLOUGHBY (Hull City Council)

- Sally Hill of Hull City Council went through the basic requirement that licensees should adhere to regarding noise effect on their staff. All premises where live or recorded music is played must carry out a risk assessment to determine if noise levels are at or above the lower or upper action levels of 80 or 85 decibels (dB) respectively. If noise levels are at or above the action levels, a risk assessment must be carried out detailing what actions/controls will be put in place to protect the hearing of staff. The controls identified may include turning the music down if possible, adaptations being made i.e. moving speakers away from service areas, putting acoustic barriers or sound absorbing materials in place, giving staff regular breaks in quiet areas, alternating employees work stations to quiet areas. For more information please go to <http://www.hse.gov.uk/noise/musicound.htm> or <http://soundadvice.info/>. In general, a more detailed risk assessment will be required where levels are above 85dB, with better controls in place to reduce noise exposure.
- One of your controls may be to provide ear protection if noise levels are at or above 80dB. If noise levels in your premises are above 85dB and you are providing ear protection as one of your control measures you must ensure this is worn by your staff and not just provided for use.
- Don't provide ear protectors that overprotect your staff as this will prevent them from hearing customer requests or when they need to communicate to colleagues. Overprotecting discourages staff from wearing the ear defenders because they are unable to perform their job effectively.
- Hull City Council is randomly calling on licensed premises to measure noise – details will be analysed and those operating outside the parameters will be asked to provide the inspecting officer with a risk assessment. If you have not carried out a risk assessment you will be requested to do so. If a risk assessment is not carried out within the time scale specified and appropriate action taken to protect your employees, you may be served with an improvement notice. If the improvement notice isn't complied with there could be risk of prosecution.
- If a risk assessment has been carried out but it is not found to be suitable and sufficient then you will have to review and modify your risk assessment.
- If you have carried out a suitable and sufficient risk assessment but the controls to protect your staff from the effects of noise above the action levels are not being followed then further action including serving of legal notices and prosecution may follow.
- The question was asked about DJ's? Sally responded that although DJ's are often third party not directly employed as staff, the premises still has a duty of care and many of the requirements of the Noise at Work Regulations still apply therefore the duty holder i.e. licensee must ensure their hearing is also protected in line with the risk assessment. A responsible DJ would conduct their own risk assessment and make provision around this.
- Sally was keen to emphasise they want to work with licensees... not against them. Anyone seeking advice can contact the Health and Safety Team on foodandhealth&safety@hullcc.gov.uk or by ringing 300300, or visit www.hse.gov.uk

- Mark discussed how music affects the environment outside of premises, which could impact on businesses/residents etc. He said the Council were not asking for quiet music, but for a reasonable approach e.g. if possible keep the doors shut.
- **ATTACHED IS AN EXAMPLE RISK ASSESSMENT, TOGETHER WITH EAR PLUG INFORMATION**

FEEDBACK FROM SGT IAN GOODE

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Door staff – still issues with complaints against door staff. There is a free training session organised by RDS with regards to conflict management and vulnerable adults and licensees are strongly urged to send their door and bar staff. There may be a cost involved to cover the pay of the door staff to attend (the training would be at the start of their shift) but it is worth the investment. Anyone wanting to attend should contact Vanessa Reed on 615428 or Vanessa.reed@hullcc.gov.uk. Sgt Goode offered to provide short term police cover whilst door staff attended training.

Reduce the Strength Campaign (starts in the city centre 7 April)

- This will see dedicated policing approaching premises with a liquor licence asking for their 'buy in' not to sell alcohol over 6.5% proof nor as single cans; it has already shown success in the Newland/Wyke wards with a proven reduction in other cities.
- Police will target street drinkers who will be given choices to sign up voluntarily to get help with living arrangements and benefits and if not they will be issued with Section 27 orders and evidence will then be gathered towards obtaining an ASBO.
- The campaign is integral to Purple Flag (which is predominantly Council driven as part of the City Plan) which means the city has to demonstrate how it deals with problematic drinking on the streets.

Homeless and Begging

- Not enough beds in the city, although an extra 16 provided at Roper Street.
- Police are aware of 'hotspots' around Old Town, RBS etc and target these areas. HullBID Support Officers also move people on regularly.
- Not everyone is from Hull. Notices are being posted in train stations at other cities that Hull can provide beds and make getting benefits easier which doesn't help.
- A proportion of street drinkers are Polish....street drinking is cultural and it can be challenging changing this behaviour.
- PC Keith Lamplough is working with other agencies to tackle beggars and street
- ANYONE WITNESSING BEGGING/DRINK RELATED BEHAVIOUR TO RING 101. THE CALL WILL BE LOGGED AND ASSISTANCE SENT IF NECESSARY. Not enough businesses/licensees are doing it.

Security Cameras

New security camera has been installed outside Leonardo's – the camera incorporates a light beam that can span 100 yards. It is hoped cameras in other parts of the city will be upgraded to the same spec, which would particularly support Purple Flag.

FEEDBACK FROM GARY DIXON – ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR OFFICER

- Gary reiterated that ASBO's were there to protect the public and businesses but businesses must pass on the information to enable him to act.
- Gary's team are working on a media/poster campaign to encourage people not to feed or provide money to beggars and drinkers.

FEEDBACK FROM MARK ANDREWS, HULLBID SENIOR SUPPORT OFFICER

Mark reported that thieves are selling stolen goods in licenses premises. He asked that managers/staff be vigilant and report back. Mark will visit individual premises to raise awareness.

FREEDOM FESTIVAL 2014 – FEEDBACK FROM JENNY COOMBES, BUSINESS MANAGER

- Jenny reported that Freedom Festival 2014 is shaping up earlier than previous years with better organisation. Jenny joined Freedom late into the planning last year – only 1.5 members of staff work on the event. Ideally it should spread right across the city but due to funding constraints this isn't possible.
- An organisation called 'Walk the Plank' will take responsibility for the programming – they ran the 2013 event very successfully.
- Jenny understood the frustrations by licensees/businesses when in previous years food franchisees were not from the area. Because of earlier planning, this can be addressed.
- It is hoped the event will also incorporate the old town to include Holy Trinity etc.
- Kathryn offered the services of HullBID to help to organise old town events which could include live music within all the bars etc.
- Jenny was invited to further Evening Economy Group meetings to update.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Andy from 247 reported that the Street Marshalls were very busy, on a similar scale to December. The Marshalls are noticing people coming into the city later intoxicated.

HullBID is offering sponsorship opportunities for their events. A pack is attached. As a not for profit organisation and sponsorship raised will be ploughed directly back into the event.

Kathryn thanked Linda Levantiz for hosting the meeting and providing the coffees. It is much appreciated.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 24th March, 3pm, Bonny Boat Pub