

Penrith Business Improvement District Board Meeting

Date: Tuesday 20th July 2021
Time: 5:30 pm
Location: Microsoft Teams video call

Philippa Ball, BID Administrator / Manager (recording) - PB
Darren Broad, Argos (Chair) – DB
Charlie Shepherd, Rotary Club of Penrith – CS
David Whipp, Starfruit – DW
Lynsey Wright, HSBC - LW

Minutes

1. Apologies

Dan Harding, Foundry 34 and Angel Lane Chippie (Vice Chair) - DH [remote voting]
Stuart Bell, Accountant with Dodd and Co – SB
Erin Torbett, HSBC - ET
Simon Whalley, Eden Valley Artistic Network – SW
Carol Grey, Penrith Town Council (PTC Representative) – CG

2. Matters Arising

No formal documentation from PB this month due to holidays.

3. Financial Update

The meeting reviewed the financial reports for the year to date. It was noted the contingency fund has been reduced, but all grant applications are now accounted for.

Action: PB to contact EDC to raise an invoice for levy paid to date to be transferred to BID.

DB has made grant applications on behalf of BID. CCC and EDC are reviewing the applications. This is for the town promotional video.

4. Chairman's Report

DB fed back from businesses following the removal of restrictions. There has been positive feedback from businesses. Businesses need to make the most of the opportunities available with summer.

In general, most customers are still wearing masks.

There has been a significant uplift in people getting groceries delivered. Businesses are encouraging safe shopping. DB encouraged businesses to remain cautious and sensible.

Recruitment is a major concern for businesses. The meeting had a detailed discussion about the local and national recruitment situation.

Action: PB to set up a Recruitment page on Discover Penrith with links to businesses who are currently recruiting. This will be in place for 1 month and businesses will be invited to sent their details via email.

Action: PB to share recruitment request posts on social media for the next month.

5. Projects Update

5.1 Borderlands Project

At the last Borderlands meeting the consultants reported back to the working party. DB discussed the findings. Three or four key projects for Penrith will be decided from this list.

5.2 Greening

DW updated the meeting on the Greening project. Britain in Bloom judging will take place tomorrow. Watering rates have had to increase because of the heat.

There will be a full review of greening before plants for next year are ordered.

6. Funding Requests

6.1 PubWatch Insurance: Pubwatch have requested £316.20 for their annual insurance.

The meeting agreed unanimously to fund Pubwatch insurance.

Action: PB to contact PubWatch to approve grant.

7. Ideas and Suggestions

7.1 Pest Control Project

Action: PB to write to EDC pest control concerning gulls and pigeons in town.

Action: PB to contact the Industrial BID about their progress with their gull project.

7.2 August Meeting

DH has suggested the next board meeting takes place in September, with a break in August for holidays.

Action: PB to schedule the next meeting to take place in September.

8. AOB

N/A

Meeting adjourned at: 6.40pm
Minutes submitted by: Philippa Ball, Penrith BID Administrator / Manager
Approved by: Darren Broad

Signature:



Date of next meetings: Tuesday 21st September at 5.30pm (location tbc)