



BID Board Meeting 5th September 2017
Kings Heath BID Ltd.

Present: Chris O’Neil (CO) Acting Chair, Gary Baines (GB), Stan Hems (SH), Martin Mullaney (MM), Phil Alden (PA), Brett Rehling (BR), Neville Summerfield (NS) Michelle Rowland (MR) minute taker.

Apologies: None

		Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome, introduction, declaration of interests</u> CO opened the meeting and welcomed Brett Rehling as this was his first meeting, asked for declaration of interests of which there were none but reminded everyone that any potential conflicts of interests on any items discussed during the meeting.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Urgent Business</u> Co-opting of Phil Alden who had stepped down as a Director but been persuaded to return to the BID and Brett Rehling. CO confirmed he had been co-opted.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes of 18th July 2017</u> GB approved and SH seconded these. Slight amendment made and to be re-sent to the Chair and MM.</p>	MR
4.	<p><u>Minutes of 1st August 2017</u> All approved these minutes were a correct record of the meeting. All Saints Jewellers still owe money for an advert but MM will continue to chase this. MM confirmed that the extra hanging baskets would not be charged for and they have not removed them.</p>	
5. (i)	<p><u>Governance Issues</u> <u>Request by Alvydas Liutaitis of Black Lab to become a Director of Kings Heath BID</u> CO advised that they were happy to have him on the BID. GB discussed when he would be joining the BID and asked what he wanted to bring to the BID and why he wanted to join. It was agreed it would be good idea to ask this question when he joins. CO advised he would be happy to invite him to join a meeting and give an open opinion. BR felt they should be able to ask questions when people join and ask for the motivation of joining the BID. NS agreed as long as they can contribute to this.</p>	

(ii)	<p>The Board suggested anyone wanting to join meet for a short while before the next meeting. The Board agreed to invite AL to the next meeting and it was agreed transparency was needed. CO asked that MM ask him to attend the next Board meeting.</p> <p><u>Setting date for November AGM</u></p> <p>NS believed this had been discussed at a previous Board meeting and agreed at that time. GB advised they needed a meeting to changes and M and A's. SH advised they did not need to have an AGM.</p> <p>CO advised they would set a General Meeting for February and would then be able to give all the facts.</p> <p>The Board agreed on not having a General Meeting until February.</p> <p>MM stated normally they would have one in October or November and advised Company's Act changed in 2006. The Board advised that they rely on articles of association and this mentions an Annual Meeting which the Board had had in February.</p>	MM
(ii)	<p><u>Resignation of Sharon Martin</u></p> <p>Not discussed at this meeting.</p>	
6. (i)	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p><u>Update on the financial position of the company</u></p> <p>MM has produced a financial report and a forward planner. This was currently showing a planned overspend of £6,792.</p> <p>MM explained the cost of the re-ballot and the Consultant (British BID, Mell Richardson) and her costs. PA the BID not being aware of the £25,000 cost of the re-ballot. CO clarified that the Board had not known they would need to set aside (even as treasurer) £25,000 for a re-ballot, meaning they would have needed to set aside around £5 - £6,000 each year for this, as the Council used to do this. CO stated that the reason the Board have no Christmas lights budget was due to having to ring fence the £25,000 for re-ballot. MM will now have to take a drop in wages to reduce to 25 hours a week. MM stated that minutes could be taken by the Directors. The Board did not agree with this statement. CO discussed the amount having a potential for Birmingham City Council to charge for collecting and have to legislate for this, noting that £17,000 was ring fenced. SH discussed previous year's payments and the money that Birmingham City Council was claiming back. GB asked about funding from Birmingham City Council for the re-ballot. MM advised that he had discussed this with Wayne Pell. MM has mentioned to the Council the potential bankruptcy. GB suggested that MM go the Council and ask for funding for 6 months for a Town Centre Manager, which they have funded previously.</p> <p>MM advised Wayne Pell had stated he believed they could have a £30,000 loan which would pay for Christmas lights and security. This he believed would incur conditions of a new Board, with new articles.</p> <p>Wayne Pell is the Council BID Officer, looking after the suburbs and will discuss any issues and attends monthly BID council meetings and is working in partnership with the Council.</p> <p>NS stated that bankruptcy is unacceptable and cannot see why they cannot run the BID in the black. He stated he has heard the ideas around the table and gave his support for reducing costs. NS queried the re-ballot costs and asked the question of the £25,000 for this, asking if this was a compulsory level of money and whether the Town Centre Manager (even part time) does</p>	

<p>some of this work, reducing potential costs. SH stated that in previous BID years the Board had completed all of the re-balloting and discussed the work they had carried out. MM stated this is a fixed contract they had which had been signed electronically by MM and was approved by e-mail and at a previous meeting. BR asked, if they were to stay in the black how much this would cost. CO discussed the five year cycle and the amount collectable, MM stated 100% would bring in £120,000 and then CO advised they were down to collect £103,000 of which to spend and discussed the annual projections; Town Centre Manager, PR, security and would then have left around £40,000 to spend. MM discussed Acocks Green and how they spend their money. CO advised the idea of the BID is to improve Kings Heath and discussed how they are supplementing the Council services. SH discussed the lack of Police in the High Street. BR advised that people would what to k now what the BID would provide or not provide and if everyone wanted the BID to continue they would need to decide what they were going to provide for them. BR asked if people were to lose the BID things such as Christmas lights would be lost and felt they ask what they needed to do most and that was to borrow the money. CO believed they did have an issue with not providing Christmas lights, suggested that they arrange a meeting with Wayne Pell. MM reiterated what Wayne Pell had said to him, advising that he thinks the Council would not give £30,000 to a board that had gone bankrupt. CO asked that MM arrange a meeting with Wayne Pell, CO, SH and BR to discuss the over spend. PA discussed how he felt regarding the work the BID had done and the fact that they had not done anything untoward but maybe been given bad advice, misinformed and that nothing had been done deliberately. All of the work the Board had done had been in the best interest of Kings Heath and he felt it would be wrong to accept a loan and wrong to accept conditions and this would look as though the Board had done something wrong. BR asked if this was just a business and they provided a service would they borrow the money and then pay this back over 5 years, stating this does not seem significant. BR asked what the amount of levy they would need to increase this to, to cover this. MM advised 2%, which would provide around £125,000. Another ½ % would cover and the Board asked how much others pay nationally. MM stated they (the BID payers) wanted security and if they provided security they would gladly do this. BR stated that there were 2 different issues; the Board stepping down and taking a loan. CO asked if PA was in favour. PA stated he could not make it difficult for the BID and yes would be in favour of accepting the loan with no conditions. CO stated he was against a loan from the Council per se. GB agreed he would take the loan if it was his own business, dependent on the conditions but felt they could increase levy as he has done his research around this. GB agreed it would be a good idea to have a meeting and ask if they want another BID levy. SH advised he would vote no and borrow no money. NS stated he was very shocked that MM had already advised people there would be no Christmas lights, he thought this very shocking. NS stated he understood the argument but did not think they should be quoted in anyway conditions from the Council. NS felt that anything the Board had done was with the best interests of Kings Heath. NS was not happy to accept any conditions and agreed conversations should be had with Wayne Pell and explore options but that any loans were not out of the question. NS agreed that the Council do well out the BIDs through services provided and there agreed any agreement should be a no strings attached.</p>	MM
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	<p>MM advised he had been completing a business survey and was aiming to get a 50% return, which the Council would want to see. MM was confident they would get a yes, with a timescale of the 25th September. The Board asked how people had found out about the Christmas lights. MM stated that he been advising people about this.</p> <p>CO advised that MM had sent an e-mail stating he had been having face to face contacts and that people had discussed this, such as Adam Regan and Lisa Trickets.</p> <p>CO asked what the consequences of reducing MM hours to 25 hours per week would be. MM stated he would just be able to do the re-ballot. CO stated MM would need to represent us and not complete the re-ballot. CO stated they needed an urgent conversation with Wayne Pell and advised MM the urgency for this and that this needed to be arranged for this week and CO would make himself available.</p> <p>The Board discussed agreements made: Loan agreed to be explored by 3 Directors. Projected bankruptcy - cut back on the re-ballot or cut back on MM's hours. CO asked MM to re-produce these figures and agreed they may need to have another finance meeting. The Board may then need to explore other avenues of saving money and look at where savings can be made and then go to Wayne Pell with these. Discuss the re-ballot with Wayne Pell.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Christmas Lights</u> Discussed earlier.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Any other business</u> <u>E-mail from Ben Clinton, England's Estate Agents</u> CO received a phone call about the BID and they were asking him about this. The person advised he was from Harborne and were organising a no count. CO had phoned MM and asked if had had any enquires. SH had also received a phone call from someone in Harborne about this e-mail. MM received an e-mail which was distributed. CO stated MM cannot reply to this and that he would respond accordingly. The Board agreed to not waver the confidentiality agreement.</p> <p><u>Respond to comments from Adam Regan</u> CO asked if anyone would like to send a response. NS asked if this could be informed after having a discussion with Wayne Pell. BR suggested any response would be complicated and difficult but that should they not respond people would read guilt. The Board agreed they would want to make a response.</p> <p>CO advised that a meeting had taken place and suggested the Board have a list of questions and they would furnish the answers. CO believed they had a right to protest and as a Board they had a duty to respond. PA did not know about the meeting but stated that he had seen on line the minutes of the SAG meeting. The Board had not had a copy of these; PA asked why Adam Regan had a copy of these. MM stated he given them to Adam Regan. MM had been tasked to meet with Adam Regan and go through events to set it up. Adam Regan was on holiday and BR stood in. PA advised that the SAG was a confidential meeting and discusses matters that relate to events that should not be put in a public arena. CO, SH and GB would like a copy. CO stated they had been giving AR a lot of time. Adam Regan has used the SAG</p>	CO

	<p>minutes and PA has made comments. CO asked if they decide this is the official thing that we need to do. GB discussed the costs of the Street Festival in previous years being £4 - 6,000 and PA stated they would have cost around £30,000 this year. CO asked if they should respond with factual data. GB suggested a simple response. BR asked if they had misrepresented Adam Regan's details. PA discussed the festival and BR discussed this and how this could "make a town" and put them on the map and the longer term benefits. BR stated there was a significance of towns having these events.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Next Meeting</u> Early October to be confirmed.</p>	