



BID General Meeting 13th June 2016

Purpose of meeting

- 25 petitions sent to BID office by members after numerous resignations in the past few months, according to section 172-4 of the companies act, the board must act in the interest of the company showing diligence and competence
- Address the lack of financial transparency and conflict between board members

Date/Time:

13/06/2016, 6:15pm

Chair:

Neville Summerfield (*acting chair*)

In Attendance

- Helen Berry - Owns seven commercial properties in the Kings Heath area and **voluntary BID payer**
- Colin Dickinson (Dickinson Barbers) – **BID director**, been trading as a barbershop in Kings Heath for 25 years
- Adrian Edwards (Mirrorstone Crystals) –involved as a **BID director** since being invited to last AGM
- Stan Hems (Johnson Butchers) –**BID director**, been trading in Kings Heath for 58 years, **Chair of Kings Heath Business Association** which is the biggest business association in the country according to Financial Times and the Economist
- Chris O'neill (Relax and Recline) –Current **BID treasurer**, been trading as a furniture store for 25 years in Kings Heath
- Neville Summerfield (Contrasts Florists) –**Acting BID Chairman, City Councillor**, has been trading as a florist for 30 years in Kings Heath. Was one of the four founding directors on the first Kings Heath BID then withdrew due to his job of championing and promoting BIDs around the city and encouraging creation on new BIDs. Returned to Kings Heath and reengaged with BID as a director three years ago and now acting Chair (*considers himself a care-taker of the position*)
- Councillor Lisa Trickett (Birmingham City Council)- One of the **Moseley/Kings Heath councillors**, been on the BID since elected four years ago
- Gareth O'hara and Helen Smart (Wilkes Partnership)- **Legal Counsel, Company Law**

Apologies

- Gary Baines (Kings Heath Pet Centre)- **BID secretary**
- Phillip Osman- **Voluntary BID payer, Former Vice Chairman**, was in attendance but **announced his resignation as meeting commenced**
- Katy Stone- **Former BID manager, resignation announced as meeting commenced**

Acting Chairman's Report

This current BID is in its 2nd term, the first being in 2008 and this term started in 2013, 2 more years until re-ballot.

Kings Heath BID was one of the first BIDs in the city and is now one of the many in and around the city

The whole board is working on a voluntary basis;

- Board members meet **monthly**
- Finance committee meet **weekly** to sign things off
- When directors are involved in a particular project they tend to meet **when necessary**

All decisions are made by the board in a **democratic** manner, although this method isn't the quickest nor the easiest it has proven to be the most effective as all decisions have backing from the majority of the board

Our appointed advertising and events agency, TIGER BAM, has been working tirelessly to showcase the unique and diverse demographic within Kings Heath. The three Tiger Bam ladies were seen running around Kings Heath high street with bunting made by local schools to promote 'Almighty Blighty' one of our most successful events

Street scene- Excited to say that Planters and Baskets are back on the street! We are working closely with the council on litter picking and advising on the best days to do it
 Declaring war on graffiti, appointing a couple of individuals on a part-time temporary basis, if the job is well done, a contract extension and increased responsibility will be awarded without duplicating what tax payers are already entitled to via the council

We are very keen to oddment Katy/*the BID manager's* work with some office support to give more free time to do a lot more managerial type tasks and spend more time in the high street interacting with business owners and residents. We have had interns who are only funded for 6 months at a time; however, this is our best option as interns are part-funded by outside bodies

Questions from members

TOPIC: Kenneth Graham security contract

DISCUSSION: this was a very successful initiative by the BID, making residents feel safer in Kings Heath. Why hasn't a new security company been engaged in their place?

Neville's response- we are not keen on cutting ties with KG security and hope to iron out the dispute over the legality of the contract, hopeful that it can be resolved in the near future

TOPIC: Conflict on the board resulting in numerous resignations including Phillip Osman and recently appointed Katy Stone whose resignations were announced as meeting commenced. Why?

DISCUSSION: There has been a difficult board for quite some time as members haven't been seeing eye-to-eye in terms of personality clashes and lack of politeness which created deep divisions within the BID board resulting in numerous resignations over the past few months including that of Phillip Osman and Katy Stone who's resignations were announced during the meeting. There are major concerns about how the BID is travelling however there is agreement that there are some positive activities on the surface that are clearly a benefit to Kings Heath as a whole

TOPIC: How is the BID money being spent?

DISCUSSION: There is a lot of descent on the board about how BID payer's money is being spent, four months has passed since the last treasurer report, and this lack of transparency has been one of the main catalysts of the clear discord between members. Due to the on-going litigation, board members aren't able to give detailed information however as soon as the litigation reaches its conclusion members will be informed

TOPIC: What should be the next steps?

DISCUSSION: The majority believe new board should be elected entirely, giving the BID a fresh start with fresh ideas and experiences; the board should be disbanded and reformed in order to begin a regeneration process. Some however believe that a total break between experienced board members and new board members wouldn't be beneficial as there is information that can be shared and utilised

A set of rules and code of conduct should be formulated as a mediation process is lacking

It is clear that Katy was the driving force of the BID since her appointment in February, one of the biggest events that Kings Heath has ever seen, StreetFest, was led by her, members agree that Katy should return to the BID as the Head of a new board

There is clearly a lot more to discuss and the absence of Katy means some information is still yet to be clarified, Neville called for another meeting to be organised in the next month and urged members not to give up on the BID as there have been positive outcomes, having being a part of numerous BIDs around the city for many years, he foresees the success of the current BID in Kings Heath. Date and time of the next general meeting to be confirmed

Anyone interested in being nominated as a board director- nomination forms are located in the BID office, 1 Station Rd, Birmingham B14 7SR