



BID Camborne AGM September 17, 2013, 6pm at Lowenac Hotel

Minutes

Present and Apologies

Board members present: George Le Hunte (Chairman), Mel Martin (Manager), Alan Honeybone, Fran Lander, Glynis Charlesworth, Jeanette Buckley, Lawrence Pavey, Max Doble, Michelle Macklin, Mike Loncar, Wayne Richens, Zoe Hall

Apologies: Alan Butterfield, Eric Pascoe

Registered levy payers present: Adele Beare, Alison Jones, A Wilkinson, B Mitchell, David Crabtree, Jason Lessiter, J Moisley, Kit Chung, Michaela Moore, N Hussain, Richard Goldring, R M Allard, Rory White, Stuart Odgers, W J Toms

Levy payer apologies: Karen Stone, Shaun Finnegan, Richard Butt, Sandra Davis, Dominic Chatfield

Minutes of the Inaugural General meeting on 30th April 2012

These were agreed to be a true record of the meeting

Directors of BID Camborne

The Chairman advised that:

Amanda Mugford, Town Clerk, had resigned from the board of BID Camborne

Eric Pascoe is stepping down from the board of BID Camborne

Alan Honeybone and Mike Loncar had been appointed BID Camborne directors by the board during the last year. Their appointments were approved. There are vacancies for 2 more levy paying directors – the audience was asked to put their names forward

Presentation on Year 1 of BID Camborne

Mel presented the success in year 1 of BID Camborne

Presentation on Year 1 Accounts for BID Camborne

Mel Martin presented the accounts year 1 of BID Camborne

Presentation on Year 2 for BID Camborne

Mel Martin presented some of the projects for year 2 of BID Camborne

All Mel's presentations were shown on the screen. The Chairman advised that the full presentation will be on the BID Camborne Can Do website by September 23rd.

Questions and Answers

There were no questions on the presentations

Main questions and answers from the BID Camborne chairman, manager, and directors, were as follows:

Q - One of my businesses is an unused store so why do I pay the BID levy on this?

A - You must deregister the property through the UBR department at Cornwall Council



Q – Several questions on what had BID Camborne done for my business?

A – The presentations showed what BID Camborne has done already to improve the Camborne business environment. Several year 1 projects have been putting right what was 'past its sell by date' in Camborne e.g. infrastructure for Christmas lights and bunting, Christmas lights, gateways to Camborne. The Chamber of Commerce business survey shows that, in the last 6 months, there has been a significant increase in business sales in Camborne compared to the same time last year. There has been an increase in footfall in Camborne this summer.

Q – Christmas lights did not work at the top end of Cross Street

A – This was due to water getting into the power supply – it was corrected and will not be a problem this year

Q – Wouldn't a free parking offer be better in the main car park – and at Christmas

A – Cornwall Council would not offer a parking deal last year but BID Camborne is talking with them this year and a Christmas parking scheme is being considered

Q – Business information is missing from the town guides

A – Please give us your correct information

Q – Don't forget the evening trade

A – Fair point

Q – Any chance of extending Christmas lights up to the station

A – Insufficient buildings/height for lights across the street. A lot of work has been done with Coastline and Network Rail to significantly improve this gateway to Camborne

Q – Figures show that business has improved in the town. My business hasn't and I was not asked the survey questions

A – This was a Chamber of Commerce survey that has been in operation with Chamber members for over 5 years, with the same group of Chamber member businesses, that showed a significant improvement in their business performance in the last 6 months compared to the same period last year

Q – Jason Lessiter said he is undertaking a survey gathering data from businesses that are failing. These businesses are really struggling to find the money to pay the BID levy. Jason said he is in communication with Josyanne Thatcher at Cornwall Council who will be looking at that. He said a number of levy payers who have not paid were taken to court and, pending the investigation by the Council, their levy would be frozen. Jason said he was aware that there's a lot of positive work being done. The direction of Camborne BID is right, everyone has the right intentions. It's an inordinate amount of pressure on businesses because the pot of money largely comes from independent businesses in the town. Jason said he would give the results of his survey to BID Camborne.



A – Referring to the presentation, it was repeated what BID Camborne has done to stop Camborne ‘going backwards’ and to improve the business environment for the town. By far the largest levy payers are national companies and Cornwall Council. It is only fair that everybody pays their share to improve the business environment of Camborne to increase footfall – which has been seen this summer.

Q – As soon as a business leaves a premises, does the landlord have to pay the BID levy?

A - Yes, because they have to pay UBR straight away and the BID levy is related to the UBR. It can be considered unfair but that is Government policy. BID Camborne will discuss with other Cornwall BIDs to see if better payment conditions can be negotiated on levy payments in certain circumstances, including time of payment from invoice, quarterly payments, empty properties, and levy payment for new independent businesses

The Chairman thanked Mel and the BID Camborne directors, Lowenac Hotel for the use of their meeting room, and all who attended the AGM

The Chairman asked anybody present who wished to be a director to let us know.

The AGM closed at 7pm

George Le Hunte
Chairman BID Camborne