

**BID BOARD MEETING, 7pm Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August at the Dornoch Hub.**

**NOTES & ACTIONS FROM MEETING.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ginny Knox (**GK**), Kyle MacKay (**KMacK**), Mark Grant (**MG**), im McGillvray (**J McG**), Gareth Dixon (**GD**), John Duhigg (**JD**), Watson Bell (**WB**), Robert Smith (**RS**) and Claire Bruce (**CB**)

	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION NOTE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
1	Everyone to sign Articles of Association	All now received by Mark	-
2	Matters arising from previous minutes	<p>Inpost lockers – CB to ask InPost CEO to chase Co-Op as no other sites have been found.</p> <p>GK and JD attended community council and had a good meeting. CC have agreed to fund website from Common Good Fund and Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm.</p> <p>Area of overgrown vegetation at retail park has been cut back by Rob. Discussion on future maintenance still with HC.</p> <p>Signage - JD and WB have taken down/corrected the signposts that were confusing or no longer required.</p> <p>Town clean up - Skibo has kindly offered use of a SkyVac to aid cleaning of guttering. To start ASAP. KM will confirm dates when team are free.</p> <p>Letters were sent to Highland Councillors and MSPs on behalf of Dornoch Caravan Park . Maree Todd is going to take the issue of the Highlife facilities access for campers. JM and fellow Sutherland councillors will vote to scrap the scheme. It was noted that a recent article suggested 25% of visitors to the area are now in campers.</p> <p>Visitor information/stats – to be paused until winter.</p> <p>GK confirmed she is happy to stay on as Chair for a futher 6 months.</p>	<p><b>CB</b> to progress Inpost</p> <p>JD and WB to discuss A9 brown signage KM All to help with progressing town clean up</p>
3	Adoption of previous minutes	Proposer JD, seconded WB	-
4	Finance	<p>£29.5k left in account with £21k so far uncommitted at the end of the year, including grant funding.</p> <p>Note: that we require further grant funding for project work/events.</p> <p>Visit Scotland grant application for food event was unsuccessful – no money is available for brand new events as they are seen as too much of a risk. Events also need to have significant numbers of attendees – this puts the North of Scotland at a real disadvantage.</p> <p>MG &amp; GK to speak to RDGC regarding possible funding.</p>	MG/GK
5	Website	Work continues on site. Framework is built and most content is now uploaded. Some editing is required. Still a lot of work required to source and upload images.	CB
6	New Tourist Tax: BID position	GK sent letter to HC expressing the BID’s concerns about the potential impact of a tourism tax. Although there is a compulsory consultation process, the reply states that much of the decision making has already been taken in terms of the tax being a % on room rates rather than a flat	GK

		per head fee, and also that the HC will have control over how and where the money is spent. The BID will push to be included in the consultation and all BID accommodation providers are to be lobbied to fill out the feedback form.	
7	Davochfin Farm	DF has an outstanding planning application for the relocation of camping pitches from next to the Lochans' reception hut to the field next to the golf driving range. The application has been with HC for three years. JM will draft a letter from the BID to the HC planning dept. asking why this has not gone to the committee for a decision.	JM
8	Highland Broadband	HB are creating an offer for all BID members of preferential rates on their monthly tariffs. The more BID businesses sign up, the lower the rates will be. Information will be sent out via email once HB sets up their database.	CB
9	BID Board	Suzy DeVenny has resigned from the board due to commitments with her business and other committees. Watson Bell is to step down in the Autumn after taking up a role with the golf club. Catherine McCulloch, a self catering owner, has agreed to be co-opted on as a new Director and this was approved. All BID directors were asked to think of other BID members who may wish to take a place on the Board. GK is to discuss with all large hotels for a representative.	GK
10	BID Manager	Job advert has been running online via HiJobs, LinkedIn and Facebook. 5 applications so far, with the deadline moved to the 23 <sup>rd</sup> September. First round interviews to take place the week after and 2 <sup>nd</sup> round following this.	GK/CB
11	Christmas Parties	CB and Lindsay Ferries have spoken to the Station Hotel about hosting Christmas Party nights for the BID businesses. Four evenings have been provisionally reserved. Tickets will cover a festive buffet meal and disco entertainment. The Hotel will offer bar tabs for those businesses who are covering these costs. Details will be sent out in the next e-newsletter.	CB
10	AOCB	The lack of progress on double yellow lines and parking signage in the town was discussed.	

NEXT MEETING – Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 7pm, Dornoch HUB.