

MINUTES

2022 Annual General Meeting of

Oswestry BID Limited (Company No. 10675349)

Venue: The Memorial Hall

Date: Tuesday 7th February 2023 at 6pm

Attendees:

- Ian Follington - Chair
- Tania McGee - Lanyon Bowdler – Deputy Chair
- Patrick Evans - Evans Enterprises
- Lee Lucks - Oswestry Borderland Tourism
- Graeme Kirkham - Knock and Snitch
- Duncan Tipton - Wilko
- Carl Thomas - Furrows
- Mark Derham - Bridge Coffee
- Emma Chapman - Shropshire Council
- Matt Potts – Shropshire Council
- Andrew Clarke – Morris Cook
- John Waine – Honorary Officer (Oswestry BID)
- Adele Nightingale - BID Manager
- Lindsey Pierce – BID Assistant Manager

Welcome and Apologies

Ian Follington, as Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed Members and observers.

He noted that this was the fifth Annual General Meeting of Oswestry BID Limited.

Apologies:

- Yossi Gliksman, Upstairs Downstairs
- Kevin Griffiths, Griffiths Tool Hire
- Stuart Phillips, Celt Rowlands
- Tim Morris, Booka Bookshop
- Samantha Cleal, Niche Patisserie

Actions from last AGM:

- None arising

Minutes from last AGM:

- Minutes accepted as a true and accurate record.

Director's Report for April 2021 to March 2022, presented by Ian Follington:

- Expanded our website in response to COVID providing business support information, giving details about guidance and grants, promoting businesses trading or operating in a different way via online, deliveries or click and collect. This was regularly updated and shared across social media to become a recognised source of key information.
- Commissioned 3 videos to promote Levy Payers: the first, for the 'Stay-Cation' market encouraging visitors to Oswestry; the second, focusing on our food and drink businesses; and third, to showcase retailers and promote shopping locally through the Christmas season.
- Continued to work with Shropshire Council to offer support and guidance to Levy Payers to raise awareness of eligibility and facilitate access to available grants.
- Extended our Footfall system to capture numbers coming into town from Upper Church Street, and our free Town WiFi went live.
- Secured new Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's) for Maes-y-Clawdd, Radfords Field and Church Street.
- Installed a pilot sign for the Industrial Estate in December 2021, now approved by Shropshire Council. This leads the way for a roll-out of the full signage scheme, looking to take place during March/April 2022.
- Facilitated monthly Pubwatch meetings (via Zoom) providing members with really useful information, encouraging strong support from Licensing, Public Health and the Police - who give valuable support to our initiative with direct answers to member's questions.
- Due to Covid the original launch was set back, the new launch has been set for February/March 2022.
- Working with Cambrian Railway, Community Rail Officer, Shropshire Council, Oswestry Town Council and our local MP on the 'Reversal Beeching Fund' which saw us through to the next round in the funding process.
- The Future Oswestry Group (FOG) secured £1.8million in funding for Oswestry town centre in 2020, and is currently working with Heritage England to deliver Shopfront grants and Upper Floor Re-purposing Schemes. Also working on our Public Realm with a scheme to update and improve our alleyways with works commencing March 2022. The Cultural Consortium, of which BID is a member, commissioned a 'Love Oswestry Event' that will encourage footfall into town and closes with a Twilight Lantern Parade through the town – February 12th 2022.
- As part of FOG we commissioned a planning Masterplan for Oswestry. This has refreshed existing plans, bringing them up-to-date and developing a clear vision for Oswestry's continued growth. Due to be completed March/April 2022.
- Organised free training courses for our Levy Payers including Emergency First Aid, Manual Handling and Social Media Training. These have been well attended with a range of courses planned for 2022.
- Co-sponsors of Oswestry Balloon Carnival, August 2021. Ran a Halloween Event, installed an Ice Skating rink on Festival Square, and ran a number of 'local town trails' to encourage visitors to explore the town, its shops and venues.
- Refurbished the amazing sculptures on shopfronts around out town.
- Increased protection through nightly security patrols on our Industrial Estate.
- Installed new bunting and festoon lighting throughout our town centre.
- Provided a Night Bus throughout the weekends of December to encourage trips into town and boost our night-time economy businesses.

Treasurers Report, Andrew Clarke:

- Discussed the Profit and Loss account, highlighting the breakdown of expenditure.
- Confirmed that micro-accounts have been filed at Companies house as the BID is a non-profit a full profit and loss is not required.

Questions:

None

Appointment Directors:

Ian Follington, confirmed the current list of Directors, before confirming that as per the Articles, four Directors (25%) would be standing down. The following Directors were standing down,

- Lee Lucks
- Graeme Kirkham
- Samantha Cleal
- Tim Morris

The following Directors offered themselves for re-election:

- Lee Lucks
- Graeme Kirkham
- Samantha Cleal
- Tim Morris

Vote

- Lee Lucks, nomination seconded by Tania McGee
- **Unanimously agreed**
- Graeme Kirkham, nomination seconded by Carl Thomas
- **Unanimously agreed**
- Samantha Cleal, nomination seconded by Lee Lucks
- **Unanimously agreed**
- Tim Morris, nomination seconded by Patrick Evans
- **Unanimously agreed**

AOB

1. Lee Lucks: Would like to thank the Team for all their hard work with the Renewal.
2. Ian Follington: Proposed amendments to Articles to increase the maximum number of Directors allowed from 12 to 14.

VOTE: Unanimously agreed.

3. Ian Follington: Letters would be sent out to every Directors to remind them that attendance was required to be 50% in line with the Articles.

There being no further business, Ian Follington thanked everyone for attending and pronounced the meeting formally closed.

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Tania McGee, Chair