

## YORK BID ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 18.00-19.30 Zoom Webinar

## **MINUTES**

Present: M. Hjort (MH) – Chair

R. Onyett (RO)
F. Wood (FW)
N. Sanderson (NS)
N. Setterfield (NSe)
P. Pinder (PP)
Cllr. A. Waller (AW)
A. Horner (AH)

S. Czarnecki (SC) R. McCartney (RM) In Attendance:

A. Lowson (AL)

C. Bush (CB)

C. Alsop (CA)

J. Little (JL)

R. Bean (RB)

K. Girdwood (KG)

Item No.	Item Note
1	Welcome & Apologies
1.1	MH welcomed the meeting attendees and introduced the panel.
1.2	Apologies were given by A. D'Agorne (AD), L. Inch (LI), and A. Graham (AG).
2	Presentation from Guest Speaker, Katie Girdwood, Local Data Company
2.1	KG delivered a presentation on findings from the Local Data Company on the impact of Covid on UK highstreets. The presentation included:
	<ul> <li>How covid has impacted the UK so far</li> <li>Post-covid recovery</li> <li>York's performance</li> <li>Key considerations for councils and BIDs</li> </ul>
	The presentation slides can be viewed here: https://bit.ly/3cQNeAg
3	Presentation from Executive Director, Andrew Lowson
3.1	AL thanked attendees who participated in the BID's recent renewal ballot. The BID was successful in securing a second five-year term, with 86% voting in favour by number and 94% by rateable value.

- AL delivered a presentation on the BID's activities over the past year and plans for Term II. Key points from the presentation were:
  - Now that restrictions are easing, the BID is focusing on the experience economy over events, such as the Guardians of York and Buzz About York projects.
  - Footfall data shows that footfall is returning, predictions of a strong staycation market appear true, and that York has a loyal, local customer base that spends money.
  - Safety, Appearance, and Encouraging the Experience Economy are rated the highest priorities by York businesses.
  - Lack of international tourism, empty office space, and increased job vacancies, particularly in hospitality, are three key challenges to York moving forwards.
  - York has exciting regeneration projects planned during the BIDs next
     5-year term, including York Central, Castle Gateway and the Station frontage project.

The presentation slides can be viewed here: <a href="https://bit.ly/3cQ7HVV">https://bit.ly/3cQ7HVV</a>

A Q&A was conducted with questions to both presenters. Topics covered York's ability to recover from the pandemic; transport into the city; whether indie businesses will fare well post-covid; and why the levy threshold has changed.

## 4 Formal Business

- 4.1 MH stated that the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were published on the York BID website in July of last year. Since no issues or requests for amends have been raised, MH declared the minutes approved.
- 4.2 MH explained that an annual review document has not been created as the new Business Plan for the term 2021-26 provides a substantial overview of what the BID achieved during its first term. The Business Plan is available on the BID's website: <a href="https://www.theyorkbid.com">www.theyorkbid.com</a>
- 4.3 CB stated the proposed resolutions and announced the result of the members vote for each. Voting was conducted electronically in the week leading up to the AGM.
- 4.4 Resolution Item 1. The approval of changes to the company articles of association
- 4.4.1 The start of a new BID term presented the opportunity to refresh the makeup of the Board of Directors, as well as to make minor amendments to the company Articles of Association.

4.4.2	In the case of each resolution mentioned (A to E) as part of this item, a majority of votes in favour was received. <b>MH</b> declared all the resolutions in item 1 as carried.
4.5	Resolution Item 2. Ratification of newly elected and re-elected director appointments
4.5.1	Board directors are expected to serve for a maximum period of 2 years before either standing for re-election or retiring, giving the opportunity for new candidates to come forward. Only registered members of the company may apply to become a board director. On this occasion, 4 existing directors are standing for re-election and 1 has retired.
4.5.2	Following the ratification of amendments to the board structure proposed under Item 1, new director posts have been created making opportunities for 2 new candidates. There are therefore a total of 6 posts to be ratified.
	In the case of each resolution mentioned as part of this item (A to F) a majority of votes in favour was received. <b>MH</b> declared all the resolutions in item 2 as carried.
4.6	Resolution Item 3. Approval of the annual financial accounts (2020-21)
4.6.1	At the end of each financial year, it is customary for a BID to publish a financial report showing details of income and expenditure incurred during the 12 months previous.
4.6.2	For the resolution to approve the company financial accounts for the 12-month period ending 31st March 2021 be approved, a majority of votes in favour was also received. MH declared the resolution carried.
5	Any Other Business (AOB)
5.1	No other business was raised.

The meeting closed at 19.14.