



## MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023, 18.00-20.00

Henley Regatta Suite, Radisson Hotel York, North Street

Directors in attendance:	M. Hjort (MH) – Chair N. Sanderson (NS) A. Horner (AH) S. Czarnecki (SC) D. Winter (DW) W. Zhuang (WZ) R. Layton (RH) A. Graham (AG)	Also in Attendance:	A. Lawson (AL) C. Bush (CB) C. Alsop (CA) R. Bean (RB) S. Calder (SC)
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Apologies: R. Onyett (RO)  
A. Wardale (AW)  
N. Arthur (NA)  
S. Loftus (SL)

Item No.	Item Note
1	<b>BID Update &amp; City Centre Performance, Andrew Lawson</b>
1.1	MH, Chair of the York BID Board of Directors welcomed attendees and opened the AGM.
1.2	AL reviewed how York city centre has performed over the last 12 months, drawing on data from a variety of sources, such as visitor numbers, in store spend on debit cards, and shop vacancy rates. He highlighted the inflationary pressures facing businesses but acknowledged that York is outperforming UK averages in a number of areas. He called for improved consultation between York Central and existing city businesses so that local people can help maximise the potential of the site.
1.3	AL outlined some of the key projects the BID has delivered over the last year of operations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the BID’s biggest successes was Colour And Light, the immersive projection on the south transept of York Minster, which drew an estimated 45,000 visitors during the usually quiet month of February.</li> <li>• Physical improvements to the city, including the creation of the College Green Pocket Park next to the Minster.</li> <li>• Street art projects brightening up locations including the York Barbican and Foss Walk.</li> <li>• A record-breaking York Restaurant Week event in March 2023, which prompted voucher downloads worth more than £234,000 for food and drink businesses in the city centre.</li> </ul>

1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• York Gift Card has now generated close to £250K in sales, with 334 businesses on board.</li> </ul> <p>Click <a href="#">HERE</a> to view the presentation slides.</p>
3 3.1	<p><b>Tourism, the picture locally and globally, Simon Calder</b></p> <p>SC, one of the UK’s foremost travel experts, was invited as keynote speaker to share some key tourism insights, observing trends at an international and national level.</p> <p>Some of the points he highlighted included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The recent return of American tourist numbers across Europe with high spending potential.</li> <li>• Chinese tourists have not yet returned post covid, but this is expected to bounce back in the near future. Encouraged York to look beyond Chinese market at other Asian countries.</li> <li>• The importance of providing visitors with a warm welcome – the upkeep of signage, infrastructure and public furniture.</li> <li>• Street art is a highly effective means of improving the look and feel of a cityscape</li> <li>• York has potential to become a key part of a ‘rail trail’ to mark the 200th anniversary of the world’s first railway, between Stockton and Darlington, in two years’ time.</li> </ul>
4 4.1 4.2 4.3	<p><b>Formal Business, Annex A</b></p> <p>CB clarified that details of each item of formal business were published in the meeting papers and sent out to attendees in advance of the meeting. As part of the communication, company members were invited to cast their vote electronically on the ratification on each item. Voting closed at midnight on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023.</p> <p><b>Resolution Item 1. Ratification of newly elected or re-elected director appointments</b></p> <p>CB explained that York BID is governed by a Board of 14 directors and 3 advisors. Each position is voluntary and representative of a different business sector within the BID area. The primary role of the Board is to oversee and scrutinise the delivery of the BID’s business plan.</p> <p>Board Directors are expected to serve for a maximum period of 2 years before standing for re-election or retiring. Only registered members of the company may apply to become a Board Director.</p> <p>This year, 1 director has chosen to retire, 5 directors are standing for re-election, and 1 new candidate has submitted interest to serve, making a total of 6 posts to be ratified. CB announced the result of the members vote:</p> <p>A. Nicola Arthur (Boots UK), to be re-elected as a director of the company, representing retail (1 of 2). 100% of votes counted in favour and is hereby approved.</p>

	<p>B. Angela Horner (Browns Department Store), to be re-elected as a director of the company, representing retail (2 of 2). 100% of votes counted in favour and is hereby approved.</p> <p>C. Jenny Layfield (Explore York Libraries), to be newly elected as a director of the company, representing other (non-sector specific). 100% of votes counted in favour and is hereby approved. 100% of votes counted in favour and is hereby approved.</p> <p>D. Rebecca Layton (Galtres Lodge), to be re-elected as a director of the company, representing independent retail and hospitality businesses. 100% of votes counted in favour and is hereby approved.</p> <p>E. Robert Onyett (Harrowells Solicitors), to be re-elected as a director of the company, representing professional services. 100% of votes counted in favour and is hereby approved.</p> <p>F. Neil Sanderson (York Minster Fund), to be re-elected as a director of the company, representing culture and education. 100% of votes counted in favour and is hereby approved.</p>
4.4	<p><b>Resolution Item 2. Approval of the annual financial accounts (2022-23)</b></p> <p>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. CB announced the result of the members vote:</p> <p>To approve the company financial accounts for the 12-month period ending 31st March 2023. 100% of votes counted in favour and is hereby approved.</p>
4.5	<p>MH thanked the attendees for their time and attention. He stressed that we would be happy to hear from any business representatives who may be interested in serving on the board in the future.</p>
5	<p><b>Any Other Business (AOB)</b></p>
5.1	<p>No other business was raised.</p>

The meeting closed at 19.49.