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Minutes of Meeting
Monday 4th January 2010
New Council Chamber, Town Hall, Beeston

Attendees			
Stephanie Wilkinson	Broxtowe Borough Council	Chris Timson	Touchlight Systems
June Cobley	Scents of Harmony	Brian Taylor	Broxtowe Borough Council
Janet Clifford	Broadgate Laundry Services	David Gibson	Beeston Snooker Hall
Lynda Lally	Broxtowe Borough Council	Pat Lally	Broxtowe Borough Council
Sheila Eden	Beeston Express	Kevin Brown	Charlie Foggs
Apologies			
Matt Robinson	Beeston BID Manager	Ally Allen	Artworks

1. Welcome, apologies and actions from the last meeting.

CT opened the meeting and welcomed everybody.

Actions from the last meeting:

- SW to feed back comments regarding High Road Improvements

Since the last meeting SW has been out with the engineer from Broxtowe who has been overseeing the scheme and the issues raised by the group were fed back. As the scheme was not complete at this time, it was evident that there were still things that were unfinished and these were identified. A spirit level was used to check the bench outside Iceland and this appeared to be level. The last bench was installed this week and it is now thought that the scheme is complete. SW to double check this. **Action**

- CT to organise a letter to Richard Jackson

A letter has been sent to Richard Jackson but CT has not yet received a response. CT to follow this up **Action**

- SW to arrange for NET to come to the February meeting

Following a request at the last meeting, SW and MR have since spoken to NET who have agreed to come to a meeting. However, as the Feb meeting will be used to present the Beeston BID draft report, this will now take place in March. It is also hoped that Henry Boot will also come to this meeting and discuss their plans for redeveloping the square. LL commented that Henry Boot has also agreed to come to her next CAT meeting and they seem really positive about Beeston.

2. Beeston BID update including information about Draft Business Plan Presentation

Unfortunately MR was unable to make the meeting. However CT informed the group that MR has been working on a draft business plan based on the comments that he has received back from businesses. This has been seen by the BID steering group and will be presented to the businesses of Beeston on Wednesday 3rd February at Beeston Town Hall. This will replace the February meeting of the BBF. The plan will outline what the

BID intends to do over the next 5 years and will break down how much this will cost. This is not set in stone and is reliant upon businesses getting involved and making suggestions to ensure that it is right and something that businesses feel confident in voting for. From this meeting, the final plan will be produced and then this will go to vote. It is important that the word gets around about the meeting. LL offered to go and speak to Businesses and letters and emails will be sent to all those involve in the BBF. MR has also collected as much information about all businesses as possible to communicate the message effectively to them.

3. Christmas footfall figures and evaluation of Christmas period

Date	2008	2009
Week 49	88186	101289
Week 50	97969	103338
Week 51	113894	103309
Week 52	93185	75513

There were 825 people walked through Beeston on Christmas day. SE asked if SW could give these figures monthly to the Beeston Express so that she can do a good news story about it each month. SW to investigate. **Action**

In general it was felt that the Christmas celebrations went well and there was a good atmosphere on the day of the switch on. LL commented that it was great to see so many businesses embracing the event and doing that little bit extra to bring in extra trade. Belle and Jerome In particular were mentioned. It also worked well that more Children's amusements were situated at the bottom end of the high road.

Chilwell Road businesses also made an effort and a number of late nights were planned. Cameron House, Artworks and the Silver tree were all involved and this also appears to have been a success.

CT commented that all these things individually are great but it would be even better if there was a joined up approach and the whole of the town got involved. The BID business plan is very marketing focused (as this is what people say that they want) and will aim to address this issues.

4. Business rates error

CT has recently had an issue with his business rates and has found out that there are a few businesses that have experienced similar issues. These issues include money being taken twice or money not being taken and then demands received. After speaking to someone at BBC about it, CT was told that he was 1 of 300 businesses in the borough who had experienced a problem. No other businesses at the meeting had experienced any problems. BT to speak to finance about this issue. **Action**

5. Suggestions for topics/speakers for future meetings

It had previously been discussed that NET and Henry Boot would be invited to the March meeting. Other suggestions included a representative from Tesco and representatives from local banks to talk about positive business practice. SW to arrange this. **Action**

6. Any other business

European Buskers – KB commented on the recent arrival of European buskers in the town centre. They are either playing really badly or using a backing track to pretend to

play the instrument. Is there anything that the Council can do about them? SW informed the group that this issue has already been raised and several dept have been involved in trying to find a solution. Unfortunately, without creating a by-law, the Council have little powers. SW to report this problem again and see if there is anything that can be done.

Action

It was also noted that Bethells were collecting money on the square last week and were rattling their tins which they are not supposed to do.

Beeston's got talent – LL let the group know that a local entertainment company is organising a Beeston's got talent competition. There will be auditions taking place from March at the Victory club and the winner will perform at this years Carnival.

Carnival – The Carnival will take place this year on Saturday 10th July. If any businesses are interested in sponsoring the event, they need to contact Pat or Lynda Lally.

7. Date of next meeting

BID draft Business Plan meeting
Wednesday 3rd February, 6pm
Old Council Chamber

Actions

- SW to check that High Road works are now complete
- CT to follow up Richard Jackson
- SW to investigate giving monthly footfall figures to the Beeston Express
- BT to speak to finance about business rates issue
- SW to arrange speakers for future meetings
- SW to report busker problem and see if any action can be taken