



**NOTES FROM BID FOR GALASHIELS
STEERING GROUP MEETING**
Tuesday 19th March 5.30pm – 7.00pm
At Channel House

Present: Debbie Paterson, Mags Fenner, Lewis Roden, Craig Murray, Gina Macari, Julie Hogg, Angela Crow.

Apologies: Mike Gray, Lauren Jamieson, Dan Broadhead, Ed Dalglish, Mel McVicar, Guy Frater, Andrew Poole

Mags Fenner Introduction and Update on her Role and Remit

- Mags was welcomed to her first Steering Group meeting as the new Project Manager.
- She will be working closely with McGowan Marketing who have kindly offered for her to base herself in their offices. Contact details remain the same as per previous project manager (manager@bidforgalashiels.com).
- Business Survey – 102 responses to date from a potential 330 (6 indicating 'no' vote, 30 'unsure' and 66 'yes').
- Discussion re. exclusions from zone: <£2.5k RV, non-retail charities, places of worship. Empty shops had a reduced rate during the last BID proposal.

Website and marketing update

- The website has now been published. We still need a head shot and small blurb of each of the SG members to be included on the website and socials. **ACTION: ALL**
- Erin has met with the elected council members on 6th March to provide them with an overview of BID and garner support.
- The Town Awards take place on Friday 29th March at MacArts (hosted by Energise Galashiels Trust). It was agreed that the Steering Group will put together a leaflet to be made available on the night. **ACTION: Lewis to ask Ed Dalglish to assist. Debbie to check with McGowan Marketing re. where leaflets can be placed.**

Ballot Date Update

- Mags advised we need to inform the council 190 days before the date. Still aiming for a Mid-End Nov 24 ballot date.
- The issue of the General Election still needs to be resolved – Mags to ask Declan Hall from SBC re. using Civica as a back-up for managing the ballot and a cost. **ACTION: Mags**

- Mags has created a spreadsheet to show impact of potential ballot dates. This will be disseminated with the SG Meeting Notes.

Review of Budget and Timeline

- The budget has been revised to account for the addition of contracted work from McGowan Marketing and the Project Manager's reduced hours.
- There is very little flexibility to cover anything extraneous (i.e. having to pay for the ballot).

AOCB - None

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 16th April 2024 5.30pm at Channel House