**The BedfordBID Company Limited**

2020/21 Annual General Meeting

Monday 17th January 2022, 5:30pm, Virtual Online Teams

**Directors attended:**

Christina Rowe BedfordBID

Samantha Laycock (Chair) Harpur Centre

Dave Roffey Bedford College

Martin Keys Gallone’s Ice Cream Parlour

Steve McBrearty Cash Converters

Charles Royden Bedford Borough Council

Amanda Olliver The Body Shop

Dean Thompson Distinct Group/Bedford Swan Hotel

Greg Warwick Jeeves

**Members attended:**

Paul Mead Michael R Peters

Revd. Kelvin Woolmer St Peter's Church

Eric Walker Michael R Peters

**Also attended:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Andrew Dennison  David Steadman  **Apologies**:  Shaun Barnett  Gareth Hitchings | Macintyre Hudson  Harpur Trust  Leaders Lettings  George & Dragon Bedford |

**1. CHAIR’S WELCOME**

The Chair opened the meeting, thanked all for attending and informed the meeting was being recorded.

**2. CHAIR’S ANNUAL REPORT**

A copy of the Chair’s verbal report received at the meeting is attached. This will also be published online along with the full 2020/21 annual review document and support material on the Love Bedford website.

**3. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Andrew Dennison from MacIntyre Hudson presented the Final Accounts for 2020/21 as published and downloaded to the Love Bedford website. Key points expressed were,

* As a company limited by guarantee, there are no shareholders and cannot pay dividends. Also, levy payers are not automatically Members.
* Despite profit/loss terminology used as per company legislation, it’s really income and expenditure with surplus/deficit for the year. The Company always works on a cash basis.
* The surplus reflects the restrictions of what could and could not be done; expenditure was scaled back with the uncertainty of income and the prudent financial planning and approach to spending in uncertain times. Cash reserves are at the ready to react to easing out of the impact of COVID and being put to good use. The voucher activity was also minimal.
* An outline of the 2021/22 activity was also provided by the Director of Operations with the overview available online including what to look forward to for 2022. Voucher activity exceeded 2020/21 in just the few weeks of pre-Christmas 2021.

No questions or queries were raised. The Chair thanked Andrew Dennison for his continued diligence and support.

**4. MEMBERS - ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS**

To adopt the Directors' Report and Financial Statements:

**AGREED**: There were no objections to adopting the report.

Director(s) retiring from The BedfordBID Company Limited:

Nothing to report.

Director(s) standing for re-appointment:

**Dave Roffey, The Bedford College Group;** Proposer Sam Laycock, Harpur Centre; Seconder Christina Rowe, BedfordBID   
**AGREED**: There were no objections to Dave Roffey’s re-appointment as Director of BedfordBID. The Chair thanked Dave Roffey for his continued support and generosity of time in all BID matters.

Member(s) standing for ratification as Directors:

**Shaun Barnett,** **Leaders Lettings;** Proposer Martin Keys, Gallone’s Ice Cream Parlour Bedford; Seconder Greg Warwick, Jeeves **AGREED:** There were no objections to Shaun Barnett’s ratification as Director of BedfordBID.

Member(s) standing for appointment:

**Gareth Hitchings, George & Dragon Bedford;** Proposer Christina Rowe, BedfordBID; Seconder Dean Thompson, Distinct Group/Bedford Swan Hotel.

**AGREED:** To receive formal Membership application paperwork for approval by the Board of Directors with interim status to become a director formally at the next AGM.

The Chair welcomed the new director and stated there are still vacancies on the Board for Members and Directors.

The Chair welcomed and introduced David Steadman from Harpur Trust. David provided a brief overview about the Harpur Trust Community Grants programme and requested the opportunity to present more details to the Directors about the consultation process in due course.

**AGREE**: To offer an invitation to attend the next Board meeting on 24th February 2022.

**5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Deputy Chair gave a report of his ‘on the ground’ feedback and specific praise to the Council and officers for their seamless and speedy reactions to businesses in dealing with the government grants who without which, feel some would not have got through the pandemic without it.

Additionally, the positive reaction to the now completed High Street was endorsed and how the programme of works was handled during the lockdown together with the positive impact it has had along with the improved walkthrough from Lurke Street and foot flow to The Arcade; c+30%

Businesses were reminded that for any responses back about the PSPO to please contact Paul Pace at the Council, details available from the BID office.

The Chair concluded with thanks to all for their demanding work and commitment to the town especially during these unprecedented times. The meeting closed at 6.15pm.