

# Board Meeting

16<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 2.30pm, Elgin BID Office & Zoom

In Attendance	Apologies
Gemma Cruickshank (GC) Tina Mainland (TM) Stuart Huyton (SH) Stephen Young (SY)	Katherine Mackintosh (KM) Natalie Shewan (NS) Ian Urquhart (IU) Derek Duncan (DD) Mark Angus (MA) Greg Robertson (GR) Laura Scott (LS) John Divers (JD)

Discussion: Last Meeting Note & Action Point Update	
The last meeting note and action update sent prior to meeting. No comments.	
Conclusions	
Action Points	Person Responsible

Discussion: Gull Reduction & Plan for 2023	
There has been a significant reduction in baby gulls again this year.	
SH suggested to run a campaign to educate the public around not feeding the gulls.	
GC told the Board that we were in a meeting with NatureScot, Elgin Community Council and Elgin Councillors to discuss the gull issue in Elgin. The main action that came from the meeting was to draw up a Moray Gull Action plan that would be a proposal to allow for areas in Moray such as Elgin to apply for a general license, GC is pulling together a draft proposal. This general license would mean that licenses would not have to be applied for each individual property, reducing the workload on TM significantly as this year she had to apply for each license.	
Conclusions	
As gulls continue to be one of the biggest issues that members face, a proposal will be sent around the Board with different options for the gull plan for 2023.	
A Moray Gull proposal is being drafted to allow for a general license to be applied for Elgin.	
Action Points	Person Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look in to creating gull campaign to stop feeding</li> </ul>	TM

Discussion: Member Issues
<p><u>Antisocial Behaviour</u></p> <p>Antisocial behaviour is causing a lot of stress to businesses. A meeting was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> June to discuss the issues that businesses are facing. There were 24 attendees, with businesses, Police Scotland, Elgin Community Council and Elgin Councillors in attendance. At the meeting it was asked that businesses make the BID team aware of issues so that we can keep a log to be able to build a case to have a higher Police Presence. The Police have been patrolling more on Friday and Saturday afternoons/evenings. A follow up meeting will held in the coming weeks to get an update from businesses.</p> <p><u>Parking</u></p>

Illegal parking continues to be an ongoing issue, GC receives daily emails from businesses regarding this which are then forwarded on to Police Scotland to action. SH asked if the Police are doing more to combat illegal parking, GC said they are out more doing ticketing but not all cars are being ticketed. An ongoing issue that was raised at the parking meeting in May is that there is no signage on Batchen Street to say no parking

Fountain

The fountain has been turned off as the current pump doesn't pump water fast enough which could cause a build up of legionella bacteria. GC has been looking into the possibility of having the fountain turned on but at this point in time it doesn't look feasible.

GC has been in contact with the Health & Safety Executive (HSE), they recommended to turn the fountain on and run daily tests and then take preventive measures. GC has also been in contact with distilleries to ask what they do with their cold water stores they said it would be far too difficult to keep the water safe and would result in legionnaires. Chlorine could not be used to make the water safe due to the damage to wildlife.

**Conclusions**

Antisocial Behaviour

Antisocial behaviour is causing a lot of stress to businesses. A meeting was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> June to discuss the issues. A follow up meeting will be held in the coming weeks. The Police have been patrolling more on Friday and Saturday afternoons/evenings.

Parking

Illegal parking continues to be a daily problem for businesses. The Police have been out ticketing more but not all cars are being given tickets. The signage on Batchen Street needs to be upgraded to say that there is no parking on the street. It was suggested to hold a follow up parking meeting to the one held in May.

Fountain

The fountain has been turned off as the current pump doesn't pump water fast enough which could cause a build-up of legionella bacteria. GC has been looking into the possibility of having the fountain turned on but at this point in time it doesn't look feasible.

Action Points	Person Responsible

**Discussion: Green Elgin & Street Cleaning**

The planters and hanging baskets were planted back in May with the help of volunteers from the Positive Action Group. The Positive Action Group have also been volunteering to help water the planets and hanging baskets and the flowers are all blooming.

The street cleans have started up again, we haven't been able to hold many as it has been raining when the cleans were due to take place. Now we are in Summer we hope the weather will improve so we can hold more. We haven't had as many volunteers coming to help out as we did last year but we are hoping that the better weather will bring more volunteers.

City Cleaning Services have been doing a great job of using the street sweeper, we have had a lot of positive feedback from businesses and the public. SH asked if the street sweeper is used every time they go out, GC confirmed and they also have a litter picker for larger pieces that the sweeper cannot pick up.

The street sweeper route map was sent out to the businesses so they can know when their area is due to be cleaned.

**Conclusions**

The planters and hanging baskets were planted in May and they are blooming well, the Positive Action Group have been volunteering to water them using the bowser.

The street cleans have started up again, we are hoping that the better weather will bring more volunteers to help out.

City Cleaning Services are doing a great job with the street sweeper, we have had lots of positive feedback from the businesses and public.

Action Points	Person Responsible

### Discussion: AOCB

#### Deposit Return Scheme

The Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) is being implemented in August 2023. This is going to be a big challenge for businesses. We held two DRS sessions in June with Steven Kiakowski from the Verdancy Group, only 6 businesses turned up to the sessions. Steven Kiakowski suggested that we should create a three month plan to help get businesses ready for DRS.

#### BID Manager Laptop

GC's current laptop is very old and asked for approval to get a new laptop for the new manager. SY and SH approved. GC will get options from IT Central and send around the Board for approval.

### Conclusions

#### Deposit Return Scheme

The Deposit Return Scheme is being implemented in August 2023. After DRS information sessions in June, Steven Kiakowski suggested that we should create a three month plan to help get businesses ready for DRS.

#### BID Manager Laptop

GC's current laptop is very old and asked for approval to get a new laptop for the new manager. SY and SH approved. GC will get options and send around the Board for approval.

Action Points	Person Responsible
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact IT Central for new laptop options</li> </ul>	GC

**Next meeting date- 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022**

### **Action Point Summary 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Action Points 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2022		Update
<b>Gull Reduction &amp; Plan for 2023</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look in to creating gull campaign to stop feeding</li> </ul>	TM	
<b>AOCB</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact IT Central for new laptop options</li> </ul>	GC	