



## **SWBA BID: Note of 5 March 2020 Meeting (Venue: Trinitarian Bible Society)**

### **1. Introductions and apologies**

**Present:** John Simpson (White Light), Nick Stefka (Box Office Supplies), Ian Docksey (Trinitarian Bible Society), Kathryn St John-Mosse and Gillian Hermanstein (RPC), David Skinner (Tenable Screw Co), Sue Wildgoose (MailASail), Caroline Cook (Merton Chamber of Commerce), Hannah Goldsmith (First Mile) and Claire Morris (SWBA Estate Coordinator).

**Apologies:** John D'Aprano (DS Systems), Nick Golson (Deen City Farm) and Lee Anderson (GreenLight Electrical).

Ian Docksey was thanked for hosting the meeting.

### **2. Matters arising from last Members' meeting (5 December 2019)**

All outstanding matters were covered by the agenda.

### **3. Potential recycling scheme – Presentation by Hannah Goldsmith of First Mile**

This presentation outlined the waste and recycling services which First Mile was able to offer in partnership with BIDs to their members. The aim was to achieve zero waste to landfill and to improve recycling rates for BID areas. A range of services were available to deal with general, mixed and food waste produced by businesses with a same day removal service provided. Those present considered that there was merit in exploring options further with a view to developing an appropriate scheme for the SWBA BID.

### **4. BID Proposals - Progress Report**

The last BID Board meeting had been held on 6 February and the key action points agreed were contained in the minutes of that meeting. It was noted that:

- TfL had advised that the work to install the new pedestrian crossing at Jubilee Way and Morden Road had been further delayed and was now likely to be carried out in May;
- the changes to the existing parking arrangements on Jubilee Way had also been delayed due to difficulties experienced by the Council's contractors and timing for this work to be done was currently awaited;
- the Council had yet to take action to improve the road markings around the estate and to address the need for new width restriction notices in respect of the Windsor Avenue entry point to the estate at Deen City Farm. This was being actively pursued by the BID;
- work to develop a wayfinding strategy had now begun and a stakeholder survey sent to businesses. Once the results of this had been analysed further decisions would be taken about how to proceed;
- there had been initial discussions with the Council and a tree specialist company about the idea of planting trees in certain parts of the estate. There was a possibility that some additional funding might be available from the Council for this which was being explored;

- subsidised places on first aid and fire warden training courses for levy paying businesses continued to be made available. A new mental health first aid course had also been added and several places were available to BID levy paying members on the first of these to be held on 18 and 19 March.

## **5. Estate issues**

Those present agreed that the BID area was currently in very good condition which was largely due to the work done by the Estate Ranger and the good working relationship which had been developed with Veolia. There was an issue with leaves blocking drains at three locations on Lombard Road and Jubilee Way and these had now been reported to the Council.

## **6. Security Matters**

There had been no specific security issues raised by businesses. It was noted that there had been an increased number of police patrols in recent weeks which was welcomed by those present.

## **7. Financial Update**

Following discussion at the December members' meeting about the BID making a one-off contribution to Deen City Farm, John Simpson had written to BID levy paying members to suggest that a sum of £2,000 be donated to assist in the development of the playground facilities. There had been no objections to this proposal and several businesses had signalled their support. It was therefore agreed that this should go ahead.

It was reported that a submission on behalf of BIDs in London, including the SWBA, had been made to the Chancellor in advance of the Budget requesting a review of all business taxes.

## **8. Any Other Business**

- The Mayor of London had recently revised the current van scrappage scheme which was aimed at tackling air pollution. The payments available had been doubled and the eligibility for the scheme broadened so that businesses with 50 or fewer employees were now included. Details would be circulated with the minutes.
- The Merton Best Business Awards launch would take place on 17 March at the New Wimbledon Theatre. All businesses were encouraged to consider entering for these.
- The GLA's London Growth Hub which advised small businesses on a range of issues was currently undertaking a survey to establish what assistance businesses needed. The link to the survey would be circulated with the minutes.

## **9. Dates for next meetings:**

**SWBA Directors' meeting: 12.30pm, 2 April 2020**

**SWBA Members' meeting: 12.30pm, 4 June 2020**

