



SWBA BID: Minutes of Board Meeting – 9 July 2020
(Venue: Video conference)

1. Apologies

Present: Directors - John Simpson (White Light), John D'Aprano (DS Systems), Nick Stefka (Box Office Supplies) and Ian Docksey (Trinitarian Bible Society)

Estate Coordinator - Claire Morris

Apologies: Directors: Lee Anderson (GreenLight)

2. Matters arising from last BID Board meeting (7 May 2020)

All outstanding matters were covered by the agenda.

3. Wayfinding project – report by Jonathan Docksey (Design JD)

Phase 2 of the project had now commenced and a masterplan strategy had been prepared which set out the key considerations to be taken into account in formulating cohesive estate-wide wayfinding arrangements. These included proposals for replacing the existing maps and signs where it was appropriate to do so. It was agreed that the BID area should formally be identified as the South Wimbledon Business Area since this was now well recognised by businesses and by the Council and other bodies and reflected the fact that the estate was not predominantly industrial in nature. Once the Board had agreed the approach set out in the draft report which had been prepared the next stage would be to engage with stakeholders, notably Merton Council and TfL, to identify how the project was to be delivered.

4. Covid-19 – update

Whilst it was clear that some SWBA businesses had managed to continue operating throughout the crisis it appeared that there were a number which were experiencing significant difficulties. Particularly hard-hit had been those in the events sector and businesses which were suppliers to the retail, leisure and hospitality sectors. These businesses had not benefited from Government financial assistance other than from the Job Retention Scheme. It was noted that Merton Chamber of Commerce was continuing to hold regular video conference meetings to provide advice for its member businesses on a range of issues. In addition, the GLA's London Growth Hub was offering meetings and free advice which might be of benefit to SWBA businesses. Further details would be circulated to businesses and the SWBA website also provided links to the various information available.

5. BID Proposals – Progress on Delivery Plan

There had been several recent developments as follows:

- there was no further information available about the likely timing for the new pedestrian crossing at Jubilee Way and Morden Road;
- the Council had now advised that it was reviewing options for improving width restriction signs in the light of the BID's concerns about these from a

safety viewpoint. However, the Covid situation and limited funding availability meant that it was unlikely that changes would be introduced in the foreseeable future;

- the wayfinding project was currently in its second phase with a draft strategy being considered;
- the cost saving scheme for utilities and other services which Meercat Associates was operating on behalf of the BID for levy paying members had now fully resumed. Meercat would be arranging meetings with individual businesses towards the end of July.

6. Financial Matters

It was noted that the accounts and VAT returns had been filed as required.

Discussions were ongoing with the Council about the issue of BID levy invoices for the new BID year which had commenced on 1 July and further details would be made available to businesses in due course.

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Dates for next meetings:

SWBA Members' meeting - 12.30pm, 3 September 2020

SWBA Directors' meeting – 12.30pm, 1 October 2020