



SWBA BID: Note of 3 March 2022 Meeting (Venue: Video meeting)

1. Introductions and apologies

Present: John Simpson (White Light), John D'Aprano (DS Systems), Nick Stefka (Box Office Supplies), Ian Docksey (Trinitarian Bible Society), Lee Anderson (GreenLight Electrical), Dawit Debesu (RTD Properties), Gillian Hermanstein (RPC), Ben Larke (BOC), Richard Cooper (London Office) and Claire Morris (SWBA Estate Coordinator).

Apologies: Kathryn St John-Mosse (RPC) and John Walker (Pulse (Designs) Ltd).

2. BID Renewal Ballot 2022

In mid-February the Council's Electoral Services had sent ballot papers to all businesses whose premises had a rateable value of £8,000 and above. The voting period would run for four weeks until 15 March. A number of businesses had already returned their ballot papers and work continued to ensure that those who had yet to vote did not miss the opportunity to do so.

3. BID Proposals - Progress Report

It was noted that the costs for the wayfinding project were currently being reworked in order to take account of the fact that there was a £25,000 shortfall in the funding allocation to be made available from Merton Council's Neighbourhood Fund scheme.

4. Estate issues

The BID had held several meetings in recent weeks with the Council to discuss various issues of concern to businesses. As a result, the Council had confirmed that they would now be arranging with the owners of the advertising signs along the embankment separating Morden Road from Lombard Road for these to be removed.

The Council had also now drawn up a plan of action for work to improve and replace where appropriate the 20mph and other signage and faded road markings in various parts of the estate, notably on Lombard Road and Deer Park Road. The BID continued to press for this work to be carried out as soon as possible to address road safety concerns.

There was some discussion about problems with fly tipping and irresponsible parking occurring on Lyon Road which had been raised as a particular concern by a business located in that area. It was agreed that this part of the

estate would benefit from additional CCTV camera coverage and the BID would therefore consider how to take this forward in consultation with Merton Council.

5. Security Matters

It was reported that there had recently been an incident in which the snack van located outside BOC's premises on Deer Park Road had been broken into and a gas cylinder removed, causing several hundred pounds of damage. This appeared to have been an opportunistic crime but underlined the need for businesses to remain vigilant.

6. Financial Update

The BID continued to operate using its existing reserves and the budget for the remaining months of the current BID term was being kept under close review.

7. Any Other Business

The question of electric vehicle charging points was raised. There was currently one public charging point located on Jubilee Way between Morden Road and Lee Road and a number of businesses had installed their own points on their premises. However, it was considered by those present that that there would be an increasing demand for points to be installed in publicly accessible areas of the estate in the foreseeable future. The BID would therefore investigate the potential for taking this initiative forward.

8. Dates for next meetings:

SWBA Directors' meeting: 12.30pm, 7 April 2022

SWBA Members' meeting: 12.30pm, 2 June 2022