



BID4Oban Newsletter



BID4Oban Ltd

February 2015

Issue 23

News from the BID Office ...

New premises

'As you may have seen in February 5th's Oban Times, BID4Oban Limited is moving to new premises. CGL have been gracious and accommodating hosts for the time we've spent in their offices, and we'd like to extend our thanks to Andy and his team for their hospitality.

This move, though, brings us closer to the business community. We will be open from 9.00am – 5.00pm, Monday – Friday. It gives us an additional outlet for the sale of Love Oban vouchers. It makes us more accessible to our levy payers. It means that a previously empty shop unit has been brought back in to use. And all of this has been achieved at no additional cost – in fact, thanks to the deal negotiated by the BID staff, our office costs will show a slight reduction.

We expect to occupy the shop in Stevenson Street from early March onwards, and look forward to seeing you there. Our new address will be as follows: 43 Stevenson Street, Oban PA34 5NA and our phone number (569915) is unchanged'

G Bass (Chair)

BID4Oban 2nd AGM



Bid4OBAN Ltd
Notice of
AGM



Tuesday 17th March 2015
At The **Argyllshire Gathering Halls**,
Breadalbane Street, Oban
6.00pm for Members,

You are invited to the BID4OBAN Ltd 2nd AGM to be held on Tuesday 17th March 2015 at The Argyllshire Gathering Halls, Breadalbane Street, Oban

Part 1 (Members of the company only) **AGM Business** will start at 6.00pm and

Part 2 (Members, Public and invited guests) **Public Presentation** will start at 6.20pm.

You will be receiving more information on the evening by separate mailing.

BID4Oban Grant Schemes

BIDs has two ongoing grant schemes for you to act on or to consider.

- ◇ If you are a levy payer,
- ◇ if your business has been in existence or trading under the same name for a minimum of 2 years and
- ◇ if you are thinking of undertaking works to the frontage of your business,

you can apply for the following frontage grant schemes run by BID4OBAN Ltd.

Both grants offer up to 50% of the total costs of the improvement works up to a value of £1000 (£833.00 ex VAT).

Business Frontage Grant Scheme

The deadline for applications for Round 5 of the scheme is 28th February 2015.

So far we have worked with over 30 businesses in town, investing £15,500 for a return of £48,500 in works, 95% of which have been carried out by local firms and tradesmen.

Or

The Expansion or Relocation Frontage Grant

Introduced last October this grant will run throughout the BID4OBAN Ltd financial year (1st Nov – 31st Oct) and offers the same level of funding as the Business Frontage Scheme, to existing levy payers who are expanding or relocating their business to new levy paying premises. So far we have offered a grant to one business and are working with two others.

For any further information on either grant please contact Nic Jones, Project Manager nic@bid4oban.co.uk or Yvonne MacLean, Administrator yvonne@bid4oban.co.uk or call the office on 01631 569 915

Application forms and guidelines can be found at www.bid4oban.co.uk or email Yvonne for a copy.

See below for some photos of past applicants.





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Digital Ambassador News

Social media is a fabulous tool for reaching existing and new customers. Facebook and Twitter have the potential to reach a worldwide audience with the click of a button. I attended a course this week run by Business Gateway and facilitated by Rene Looper of Tuminds which was amazing.

I was astounded by the potential and by how little I was actually aware of what these platforms could achieve and I had thought I knew what I was doing. A lot of people are a little nervous and dubious of the value of using social media for their business but if you get the opportunity I think everyone should try and do this course or a similar one.

This was a free course run by Business Gateway with a lovely lunch provided by the Caledonian Hotel and all it required was a day of my time but I think the benefits for business use could be huge.

If I can be of any help with using Facebook or Twitter please let me know, I'm not an expert but after my course I'm buzzing about what can be done.

MiLove Oban is a valuable tool for promotion of all business related activities which is also streamed into the social media outlets. MiLove Oban is free to all levy payers to help with promotion of their business and any offers, sales or incentives they have coming up.

Contact me if you need any help with MiLove Oban content or have forgotten your log in details.

On a completely different note, I can't wait for the Spring and Summer to arrive. Christmas was wonderful but is now a distant memory and I'm looking forward to seeing the streets thronged with people enjoying Oban at its best in the sunshine and I'm excited to see what Stafford Street will look like when it's finished. Roll on Easter! Kay

'Oban Whats On' Poster Boards

BIDs updates the Poster Boards regularly and during summer we re do the posters fortnightly.

If you have any upcoming events or happenings in your business you can let us know by adding the information to <http://obanwhatson.co.uk/submit-event/> or by letting Yvonne know via email or contacting the office.

Upcoming Events

Skerryvore Decade

30th May 2015 at Mossfield Stadium

The 1st round of tickets for this exciting event went on sale last Friday and in less than an hour the 1500 released were sold out.

The next round of tickets go on sale via the www.skerryvoredecade.com website at 12 noon today, Friday 13th and it is expected that there will be a high demand. People are travelling to Oban from all parts of the UK, and Europe, to attend this event and to enjoy the wonderful Oban hospitality at its best.

Contact Us

Please feel free to contact the team on the contact details below.

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Neil Mackay—Events & Marketing Manager

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