

BID4Oban 19th April 2020

Summary of Directors conference calls of 24th & 31st March 7th & 14th April.

All directors with the exception of Gilbert MacKechnie participated in these conference calls

24th March

Andrew Spence update:

- Office to close this week
- BID to look at ways of updating business community
- Bulletins published since 13/3/2020
- Andy working on strategy to pull business community together
- Andy to work with A&B to publish information to the business community

Fergus Murray update:

- Interpreting advice on business support and loading onto council website
- Council inundated with enquiries from business
- Information being loaded onto council website
- Council focus on public health
- Homelessness becoming a potential issue council working with hotels
- Lots of vulnerable people across council
- Effort to protect children
- Keep everything simple
- There may be automatic application for grants based on rates system and some may be automatic grants allocated
- Building sites situation to be updated and at present most making safe
- No council contracts being taken forward or delayed
- Blue bins suspended due to staff being reallocated
- Recycling centres closed
- Only green bins to be collected
- Common questions to be issued

31st March

Andrew Spence update:

- Furlough BID4Oban Employees. Unanimous decision made by board to action.
- Rent holiday on business premises. Unanimous decision not to pursue due to council support of BID
- Office costs to be minimised
- All grants for events suspended until further notice
- £10000 council grant to be applied for unanimous board decision
- Levy to be suspended. Council and Levy payers to be updated

Fergus Murray update:

Fergus updated board on current council situation and progress. Not formally recorded.

7th April

Andrew Spence update:

- Liaison with business community
- Coordinate OT features Live now
- Setting up OFM package for them to remain on air
- Conference call OLTA
- Decision regarding future funding of events made that all events grants and funding applications are on hold until further notice
- Liaison with council reference funding grants

STP Grant available for BID companies to support them from 1st April to 30th September

Funding to be applied for to cover

- 3 months OT coverage on WEB and paper
- 3 months support of Oban FM
- 60% of CEO Salary for 6 months.
- Zoom membership for conference calls
- Support from freelance social media to spread word
- Support for Dove Centre if required
- Support for Rockfield outreach projects only

14th April

Andrew Spence update:

- Levy Payers that can pay to be contacted – banks, supermarkets trading businesses
- Oban Times advertising – first advert last week and plan for improved publicity this week
- Readership of Oban Times to be defined – printed version 16K Readership 32K
- Jane McLeod to be contacted to share information with Mid-Argyll Chamber of Commerce
- Conference Call with Oban FM

Fergus Murray update:

- 900 applications processed
- 5.6 days for approval
- 95% Approval
- 1800
- 9.5M£
- Community continuity committee

Addendum:

- Application to A&B made £10000
- Application to STP submitted
- Week two of Oban Times advertising with improved coverage
- Support of Oban FM with podcast broadcast last week in association with the Oban Times

- BBC Alba and BBC Radio Highland interviews Monday 20th April to be broadcast during WC 20th April
- Numerous business enquiries processed, and advice given
- Contact with A&B Finance dept regarding grants. A&B investigating sharing of information so BID4Oban can field calls
- 15 Corona Virus updates published along with other information via Mailchimp and BID4Oban website
- Discussions still ongoing regarding business directory and new BID4Oban website

BID4Oban Website:

Visit <http://www.bid4oban.co.uk/> for full list of updates.