



MINUTES
BID Board Meeting
15th July 2026, Ash Restaurant

1. Welcome and apologies

Attendees:

- Alison Clack
- James Haynes
- Mark Harris
- Michelle Baker
- Sophie Harrison
- Stephen Roberts

Apologies:

- Andy Dixon
- Cllr Richard Parkin
- David Hemming
- Mark Wilkinson
- Ross Symonov
- Stephen Nixon
- Victoria Lawton

MB informed the Board that Victoria Lawton had advised that her business, I Am Yogi, will be closing their Sutton Coldfield studio in Gracechurch shopping centre and, as a result, she will be stepping down from the BID Board. The Board expressed its thanks to Victoria for her valued contribution.

2. Town Council's £20m Pride In Place funding and CCTV

The Board discussed the BID's potential submission of an application to the Pride in Place Grant Fund towards the replacement of the town centre's three public CCTV cameras, which had been non-operational for approximately three years.

The Board noted that the £20 million Pride in Place Fund had been allocated to Sutton Coldfield Town Council for administration, with a maximum grant of £25,000 available per application. The BID had not been directly invited to apply for funding but had become aware of the grant opportunity through social media posts.

The total cost of the CCTV replacement project was noted as £43,798, leaving a potential funding shortfall of £18,798. MB asked whether the BID would consider funding the balance. The Board agreed that MB should first approach Gracechurch Shopping Centre to establish whether it would be willing to contribute towards the shortfall, having previously indicated that it may be able to provide support.

The Board noted the BID's previous work in relation to the CCTV project, including correspondence with the MP, Town Council and Pride in Place regarding potential funding; identifying and raising concerns regarding the non-operational cameras; maintaining the matter as an ongoing priority; attending site visits; obtaining project costs; and presenting the proposals to relevant stakeholders for consideration.

The Board also noted that the BID had raised the issue publicly through local press coverage, highlighting the lack of public CCTV in the town centre, other than those operated by Gracechurch Shopping Centre.

3. Three Tuns Pub

MB provided an update on the BID's previous sponsorship of Tunsfest, a one-day ticketed music festival organised by The Three Tuns. The BID has provided financial support to the event in previous years, including a contribution of £2,016 in 2022, with previous contributions of £925 and other amounts in earlier years. The BID has not sponsored the event for three years.

MB advised the Board that, as The Three Tuns' annual BID levy contribution is £1,000, it would not be appropriate to continue sponsorship at the previous level of £2,000, as this would exceed the business's annual levy contribution. The Board noted the importance of ensuring that BID funding decisions are fair, equitable and provide value across all levy-paying businesses.

MB also proposed that, as the BID enters its new term, formal sponsorship guidelines should be developed to provide greater clarity around the annual consideration of sponsorship requests and to ensure that support can be distributed appropriately across a range of businesses, venues and events within the town.

Following discussion, the Board agreed that the BID would make a £500 donation, in the name of The Three Tuns, directly to Square Peg, the nominated charity beneficiary of funds raised through Tunsfest. MB to inform the Three Tuns Manager.

4. Town centre news

MB provided the Board with an update on recent town centre business developments and reported the following:

- **KFC:** The restaurant manager reported a number of anti-social behaviour (ASB) incidents occurring on the premises. MB and the Police advised that

all incidents should be reported to the Police to ensure that an accurate record of town centre ASB is maintained. The Police reiterated their previous recommendation that the business consider employing a security guard.

- **Heavenly Desserts:** The owner reported that the business had recently experienced an incident of anti-social behaviour.
- **Mini Me and Toys 4 You:** Both businesses had informed the BID of their intention to relocate to alternative units within Gracechurch Shopping Centre.
- **Bonmarché and Poms:** It was confirmed that both businesses are due to open new premises within Gracechurch Shopping Centre.

5. BID Talk 2026

MB proposed the continuation of the BID Business Talks programme, which has been successfully delivered since 2023, providing continuity for BID members and supporting ongoing business engagement during the new BID term.

The Board noted that the event would be funded through income generated by the BID Farmers' Market, together with a contribution from the BID.

MB proposed refreshing the format to include a number of expert speakers discussing a common theme, with The Royal Cinema suggested as an alternative venue to the College, which had kindly hosted previous events.

The proposed theme, "Reimagining the Future of Our Town Centres", would explore the changing role of UK town centres and the evolution of high streets into more diverse, mixed-use destinations, incorporating retail alongside living, working, socialising, culture and events.

The Board noted the proposed format and potential speakers and voted in favour of proceeding with the event in October.

6. BID funded events in 2026

- Valentine's Walk-In Globe & Bag Giveaway in Gracechurch, 14th February
- Meet Bluey & Bingo in Gracechurch, 29th March
- 3-day Food Festival, 10th – 12th April
- The Real Peaky Blinder Talk at The Rhodehouse Prof.Carl Chinn, 10th June
- Family Carfest on The Parade, 11th July
- Meet Fireman Sam at the Fire Station Open Day , 2nd August
- Jazz Festival, 24th July– 2nd August at local venues
- Transformers Day on The Parade, 16th August
- Ice creams for students on results day at the College 13th & 20th August

- 3-day Food Festival, 11-13 September
- Halloween event, TBC
- Christmas Market on The Parade, 11th – 13th December
- 9 Farmers & Craft Markets, last Sunday of the month March–November

7. BID ballot

MB reported that the business consultation survey was now underway. All 340 BID levy-paying businesses would be invited to provide feedback to help inform and shape the projects and initiatives to be included in the BID Business Plan for 2027–2031.

MB confirmed that she would be responsible for drafting the BID Business Plan for 2027–2031. Locus BID Consultancy would prepare the required legal documentation for Birmingham City Council for BID ballot.

The Board discussed the current BID boundary, including whether Coleshill Street should remain within the BID area. It was noted that some businesses had expressed concerns regarding their location on the periphery of the current boundary. The Board noted that Coleshill Street had originally been included within the BID boundary following requests from businesses in the area at the time. The matter was discussed in the context of the wider review of the BID boundary as part of the renewal process.

8. Any other business

None.