

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
FOR
GARRATT BUSINESS PARK BID COMPANY
&
GARRATT BUSINESS PARK MANAGEMENT LTD
ON
24TH FEBRUARY 2010 AT 3.30PM
AT
MALCOLM RYAN STUDIOS
(with thanks to Luke Ryan for providing the meeting facilities)

- 1 Attendees; David Guyan (Mr Carpet), Jonathan Grayling (Milton (South) Ltd), Raman Patel (Ryan Jayberg Ltd), Bruce Maskell (Maskold Ltd) Keith Stringer (M & S Supplies), Derek Smith (Holman & Williams (Packaging) Ltd.) Peter Schwartz & Scott (Bramfield Garage), Barbara Lascelles (Lascelles Antiques), Nicholas Moll (The Ludo Press), John Ruske (Wandsworth Council), Greice Tavares (South London. Biz) , Kevin Legg (Wandsworth Council), PC Tilley & PC Duke (Earlsfield Safer Neighbourhood Team), Stephen Mercer (TUK); Mike Powell (CPS Supply Co Ltd) Judith Roscoe (BID Coordinator).
- 2 Apologies; Mahesh Rawal (Essential Sales Products Ltd); Luke Ryan (Malcolm Ryan Studios)
- 3 Minutes of the last general meeting held on 24 June 2009 were noted. All those present wished to record their sadness concerning the unexpected death of Alan Thompson, and to record their gratitude for all his achievements and the hard work he had given to both the Garratt Park business estate and setting up the BID.
4. **BUSINESS RATES** – A presentation was made by Kevin Legg, Head of Revenues at Wandsworth Council concerning Business Rates. Kevin explained the background to Business Rates, that it is managed by the Valuation Office, and simply that the collection is done through the Council. The rateable value is reviewed every 5 years by the Valuation office, and the multiplier (ie how much is collected per £ of business rates) is set in March annually, nationally. You can appeal, free of charge, for impartial advice from the Valuation Office. The review in 2010 is based on rental values in 2008. Out of 93 Rateable Values on Garratt Business Park, 57 have been reduced in 2010. All businesses can apply to the Council under the hardship scheme; and the Council will then sometimes consider a revised repayment pattern in order that the business can meet the repayments. Due to the high cost of Crossrail, a premium of 2p extra has been imposed on all businesses with a RV of over £55,000; this affects 5 businesses on the estate. The Council has been and continues to campaign for business rates to be managed locally rather than nationally.
- 5 The BID Company - Judith Roscoe, the new BID co-ordinator, explained that the BID company Board comprised David Guyan (chairman), Derek Smith, Keith Stringer, & Mahesh Rawal from the Business Park & John

Ruske (from the Council). There had been Board meetings in September, November & February and the next one was due in March. Such meetings are held approximately every 6-8 weeks. Two meetings between the BID company and the Revenues Department of the Council are held annually to monitor the process of the BID funding and its collection. The BID company also holds quarterly meetings with the Council, especially to include officers from the Economic Development Office and the local Ward Councillor relating to the work and issues on the estate. Information regarding the BID's finances were presented. The income from the BID levy in 2009/2010 to date is £52,020 and whilst the current funds available stand at £35,564.83, it is anticipated that these will be fully spent in terms of the CCTV, drains maintenance, administration costs (Judith's salary) and miscellaneous items.

6. The main work of the BID company has related to sourcing of the CCTV, Judith's induction, some tidying up work with Soloman relating to pre BID funding, and a meeting with the Mayor of London to promote BIDs. Judith is paid for 52 days a year and tends to be on site for a couple of days a week. The days of her anticipated attendance are put on the 'snack van' notice board.
7. CCTV - There have been 2 proposals received for installing CCTV in Garratt Business Park. One is an analogue system proposed by the current suppliers of the CCTV and the other is a digital system proposed by the suppliers of a CCTV system to the Willow Lane Industrial Estate (following a meeting between Judith and her counterpart at Willow Lane). Someone present queried how much money such a CCTV system would save, given that since the gates had been operating, the fly tipping had significantly decreased. David Guyan said that this is difficult to calculate but it will generally enhance the estate. Others businesses said that they had paid less insurance since the gates were installed and another that the CCTV relating to the gates had helped when he made an insurance claim. (He burned a CD and handed it over to the insurance company.) If the digital system is selected it will need less maintenance than the analogue one. An application will be made to the Council to cover one third of the cost.
8. NATIONAL GRID – National Grid claim that they are very keen to obtain permission for the easements for their tunnel, however the discussions seem tend to be generally not immediately productive. It is unlikely that NG will proceed with any tunnelling until at least 2011. If there is any news, this will be posted on the website and on the notice board near the Snack Van.

National Grid have asked David Guyan to obtain a price from Cappagh to repair the potholes, but as Cappagh are not on the NG contractors' list this may not be straightforward. When David has asked them what their proposals are for the road, they have not provided a direct answer.

9. BID LEVY 2010 – This is due to increase as published in the original BID booklet. It will be applied to the business rates payable at 1st April 2010. The BID company (Judith and the Board) will agree the latest/current list of business on the business rates list with the Council's Revenues department, and then the Council will send out the bills in April.

10. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** – there have been planning applications for mortuary on site, a travellers site in Earlsfield, and for a potential recycling site at Garratt Business Park. Both the BID company and a number of individual businesses have responded to all these applications. The mortuary application has been approved, but the objections to the general housekeeping of the rest of the current Bayes site was noted within the approval. The travellers application (to extend the size which the travellers themselves do not want) does not directly relate to the business park, and the recycling application is a long term one and would only be considered if there was sufficient vacant space available; at the moment this is not the case.
11. **FUTURE PROJECTS** – Ideas at the moment relate to minor additional work on the drains and the lighting (especially in Lyndon Yard), possible work relating to the flooding risk of the River Wandle, recycling schemes for the estate & parking. Work is still outstanding on the scruffy verges outside the estate, some of which are the Council's responsibility and some belong to Gander & White. The BID board would like to put a memorial to Alan Thompson on the Gander & White verge. Questions asked were, 'what happens if the levy income is not spent' and 'how will the BID company decide whether we hold on to a substantial sum contrasted with spending it on small items'.
12. **GO GREEN-** Greice Tavares from South London.Biz, but working in association with Wandsworth Economic Development Office gave a short presentation about her work and how she can help businesses. Greice referred to visiting some Garratt Business Park businesses two years ago, and her aim is to reduce their costs by increased energy efficiency and recycling. Greice would also like the estate to consider collective recycling. A meeting is planned with Judith and a BID board member later in the Spring. Greice's contact details will be put on the website.
13. **COMMUNICATIONS** – There were some complaints about the apparent short notice of this meeting. Communications with the businesses were discussed in general. Monthly updates of the notice board near the 'snack van' are now being posted (and this has included dates for both the Board meetings and the Open meeting) and the Open meeting dates are posted on the website. However those present would prefer to receive emails if possible. A banner will be prepared to advertise the next Open meeting.
14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – this will be on Wednesday 23rd June at 3.30pm. The open meetings of the Garratt Business Park BID are held twice a year, and it has been decided that these will be in February and the end of June. This is to 'avoid' both the Christmas period and the summer holidays.