



Meeting of the Henry Street Area Action Group 23rd January 2012

In attendance: Richard Guiney, Kathryn Ryan, Gerard Farrell (Dublin City BID) Inspector Sharon Kennedy (Gardaí, Store Street) Ann Sheehy, Kerrie Pennoy, Denis O’Riordan, Tracy Walsh. Martin Gear, Ben (King 7).

Item	Action
Antisocial behaviour	Dublin City BID is co-funding research into drug use and antisocial behaviour in the city centre. The feedback we are getting from our researcher indicates that Garda operations in the area are having a successful impact and that users and pushers are not comfortable in the area and are beginning to move elsewhere. We believe that is important to maintain this momentum.
Night time crew	Dublin City BID will be providing a night time crew from the middle of February onwards. They will work four nights a week from Thursday to Sunday and will provide a cleaning service, tourist assistance and will actively report any instances of begging or antisocial behaviour to the Gardaí.
Street Markets	<p>The area around the North Lotts (which runs off Lower Liffey Street) is included in proposed Bye Laws and we hope they will come into effect in Autumn 2012. BID will be working to bring quality markets to the area from the late summer onwards once the area becomes officially designated for market trading.</p> <p>This has been shown to increase footfall to an area and benefit existing retailers while acting as a deterrent to antisocial behaviour.</p>
Mary Street plan	We have been seeking the full pedestrianisation of Mary Street and the removal of parking bays from the street. Henry Street enjoys very high footfall levels but these drop off significantly

	<p>after the junction with Jervis Street. Repaving the area would encourage footfall to continue down Mary Street and into the Capel Street area. Dublin City BID has footfall cameras throughout the area and these figures are available to any of our members on request.</p>
Homeless Centre – 160 Capel Street	<p>The homeless person’s referral office at 160 Capel Street will be closed by March 31st. After significant lobbying on this issue Dublin City BID has been assured of this date by the DCC Homeless Agency.</p>
Dublin Acquainted website	<p>New consumer focused website to be launched in February that will work across all platforms (PC, table, smartphone). Member involvement will be essential such as business profiles, promotions, offers etc. There will be an official launch from February 20-24th with promotion on 98fm.</p> <p>We hope to raffle off various Dublin “experiences” to competition winners with an emphasis on “re-acquainting” people with their cities. We welcome participation from our members for these “experiences”.</p> <p>“Dublin Acquainted” will act as a gateway for the BID’s iGuide app and will also be supported through BID social media sites which have 10,000 friends/followers.</p>
Dine in Dublin	<p>Next edition of the Dine in Dublin restaurant promotion will begin on March 26th, we will be seeking to develop the festival further and introduce new elements.</p> <p>We welcome suggestion sand ideas from our members on how to make this so. This activity will be further promoted through our Marketing Forum.</p>
Marketing Forum	<p>Dublin City BID hosts a city-wide marketing forum with representatives from DCC, Temple Bar Traders, Dublin Bus, Luas, Failte Ireland etc.</p>
Christmas & New Years	<p>Footfall for Christmas 2011 is up 8.5% compared to last year for the city centre. Footfall may be affected by the lateness</p>

	<p>of the budget which has effected trade in November.</p> <p>Representations have been made by Dublin City BID and Retail Excellence Ireland to the Government regarding bringing forward the budget to encourage Christmas trade</p> <p>The Shop & Drop bag minding service was provided by Dublin City BID in the GPO Arcade and Stephen's Green Shopping Centre. The service was well with received with 92% of those surveyed saying that the service would encourage them access the city through public transport or cycle. BID will be meeting with the National Transport Authority to look at ways that this could be turned into a year round service.</p> <p>The BID supported the New Year's Eve festival again this year. The Event was a sell out with 10,000 tickets sold, double the expected attendance.</p>
Public Toilets	<p>The lack of public toilets has in Dublin City Centre has been discussed at BID board level. The shopping centre experience has shown that properly staffed pay public toilets can be operated successfully and safely in the city centre.</p> <p>Dublin City BID has made a number of proposals to DCC on this issue and the Labour party councillors have raised the issue for discussion at the upcoming Environmental Special Policy Committee meeting.</p>
Insurance Scheme	<p>Dublin City BID in conjunction with First Ireland can guarantee BID members a 20% reduction in their business related insurance costs. For more information please contact First Ireland Insurance brokers on 01 882 0838 or 086 311 6830 for a quote.</p>