

Page 1

BID For Galashiels

Meeting minutes – 2nd September 2025, Cullen Kilshaw at The Interchange

Present:

Mags Fenner, Lewis Roden, Jay Hogarty, Angela Buglass Kelly, Debbie Fuller, Tam Denholm, Euan Jardine, Sgt Crawford Laing (Police Scotland)

Apologies:

Tam Denholm, Angela Buglas-Kelly, Jay Hogarty, Sgt Crawford Laing

Next Meeting:

5th October 2025, Cullen Kilshaw, Interchange

1. **MINUTES** from August meeting agreed.

2. **MATTERS ARISING**

Financial Director – still vacant position.

The Legislation requires that we have an FD who must have a background in the financial sector or a financial role. MF had checked with Scotlands BIDs who advise that if an FD cannot be recruited from a BID Levy Paying business, an FD can be recruited from outwith the BID area (with no voting rights).

Accountancy services have been agreed, LR to offer FD role to the same firm.

ACTION LR to follow up with accountancy firm

CRM

There is still no CRM. MF explains that this is now business critical. The BIDBase quote (obtained March) remains valid.

**ACTION MF to contact TD, Board agreed to
revert to BIDBase if CRM not ready by 12 Sept**

VOIP Phone

Page 2

Expenditure agreed for VOIP service to provide BID with an 01896 phone number.

ACTION – MF to follow up

Operating Agreement

Now signed off. Awaiting meeting with SBC to agree process and procedure for Data Sharing (agreed in principle).

ACTION – MF and LR with SBC

Vacant Units

Good progress.

- Dates for Iain Nicholson and TVSA visit being agreed. He will be in Galashiels and attend October Board meeting.
- Two more landlords of vacant units are now connected with BID in response to an article in the most recent BID newsletter.
- Positive meeting with Moray Council (Jay and Mags, online) who set out how they have targeted vacancies and how they have communicated with potential investors and what incentives were offered.
- Next Steps – 1. Visit by TVSA and 2. Meeting in diary (online) with SBC and SoSE as facilitated by Cllr Jardine.

ACTION: JH, AH, MF to take forward as before

Clean and Safe

- PM and SBC in regular contact.
- Ongoing issues with rubbish in Overhaugh Street.
- MF has meeting arranged with SBC to follow up on 4 August walk-round (this follows up on exchange of emails)

ACTION: MF to take forward with SBC

Christmas

- Market – local traders to have first option, free of charge
- Snow Globe – booked. Sponsorship idea to be developed. Agreement on timings and position to be taken.

Page 3

- QR code to be created to encourage donations for 2026 event
- SAG meeting date confirmed for October 9th 11am.
- Lights – need to be collected and tested (stress and electrical) asap.

ACTION: LJ, HC, LR, MF to take forward as before

Increasing footfall and spend

- Scotland Loves Local was a success for the town with good take up and reach on Social Media. The Gala photographs were shared widely, including by Scotland's Town Partnerships on their website, meta and LinkedIn
- MF has connected with SSDA and will continue to work with them to secure better coverage for Gala and area through Scotland Starts Here.
- MF noted that it would be fantastic to build presence and itineraries in good time for Visit Scotland Connect - the annual trade facing showcase due to be held in Glasgow in April 2026.

Cllr Jardine volunteered to request David Hope-Jones, CEO SSDA to attend a BID Board meeting

ACTION: MF to pursue with SSDA.

Cllr Jardine to follow up with DH-J

ENDS