



Chairman's Latest BID Update - August 2017

Dear Partner,

While many people are away on well earned holidays the work of the BID continues.

Important Message from the Metropolitan Police

The Sidcup Safer Neighbourhood Team will be visiting businesses on Station Road and Sidcup High Street over the coming weeks to try and get them to sign up to the Neighbourhood Watch initiative 'Shop Watch'.

It's completely free to sign up to and it's about keeping each other aware of crime issues and improving information sharing with neighbouring shops. Once you have joined you will receive regular email updates from Neighbourhood Watch regarding any incidents or reports within the area which would be relevant to local businesses such as shoplifters, banned persons, robberies etc. Additionally, if a member reports an incident to Neighbourhood Watch or the police then the email can be forwarded on to all other members.

If anybody has any questions they can contact Sidcup.snt@met.police.uk

Radios

Over the next few months we are going to launch a radio scheme for the BID area so that members can communicate quickly with each other and the police. The feedback from similar schemes in other towns is that radios deter shop lifting and increase the feeling of safety. We are hoping to have 25 radios in total spread around the town. There will not be a charge to have a radio. If you are interested in participating Please contact Cheryl Curr on 0208 302 4970 mob 07758 127643 email cheryl@sidcuppartners.co.uk

Hanging baskets

You may have noticed that some of the hanging baskets were not looking their best. The company responsible for the watering of the baskets have taken full responsibility and those effected have been replaced.



Meerkats savings

As we have mentioned before a company called Meerkats will be working in the town from September helping to reduce costs to businesses. If you have a particular concern over any operating costs please let us know and Meerkats will see if they can help.



What is Tysom?

We have engaged a company to trial a discount and promotion scheme for the town to hopefully encourage more visitors to Sidcup. The scheme is based on using a smart phone.

We are looking for 25 businesses to participate in a free pilot.

Could your business handle more customers?

Do you currently use a paper loyalty card or run promotions and discounts?

If you are interested please contact Robert@tysom.net to register your interest before 4th Sept 2017.

Throughout September / October each Thursday (7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, and 5th October) between 11.30pm and 4pm Robert Housden of TYSOM will be in SIDCUP working to explain to businesses how the scheme could work for you.

If you have any questions regarding TYSOM and how it could help your business – Robert can be contacted direct on 07909 915506.

Sidcup BID and Barclays Cyber Fraud Event Wednesday 23rd August

The cyber Fraud event held at the Hackney Carriage on Wednesday 23rd August was a real eye-opener to those who attended. The speaker gave many examples of how fraudsters can access your personal details and then use these to commit fraud. There were some key tips on keeping yourself safe on line. The feedback from participants has been very positive and we will definitely be arranging more sessions on this topic. We also heard that new government legislation on data protection will come into force soon and it is anticipated that business will be fined if they are subject to a loss of data when they don't have proper policies and procedures in place. We would like to thank The Hackney Carriage for hosting the event and congratulate them on winning cider outlet of the year.



Empty shops

We are keen to fill any vacant retail units we have in the town as soon as possible and we are regularly in contact with landlords. Sometimes it is not possible to influence these matters as quickly as we would like. An example of this is the Vacant Store 21, which has gone into liquidation and is likely to be empty for some time but we have tried to make the unit look more presentable by covering the shop front with vinyl supporting the Sidcup and Lamorbey History society. We would like to thank Sign of the Times for their help in this project.



The Glades

We have had several complaints about rubbish and litter in the Glades. We have spoken to the council to discuss the issues, having visited the site there are ample bins but they don't have lids so if they are full the contents can get blown about however it seems that some park users feel it is acceptable to drop litter without any consideration for others. We are asking the council to post enforcement officers in the area to deter the anti social behaviour of a few park users. We are also monitoring the emptying of the bins.

Please contact us with any concerns and good news stories that we can share.

Tel: 0208 302 7711 **Email:** info@sidcuppartners.co.uk

Many Thanks,
Sue Petty

