



Minehead BID Company Board of Directors Nominations

INDEPENDENT RETAIL (5 CANDIDATES)

Candidate: Anne Douglass, Proprietor, Robin, 13 Park Street.

Testimonial

Since opening 'Robin' my vintage clothes shop in Park Street, I have come to recognise the unique qualities of the Minehead business community, and have actively participated in business organisations. Most recently I have been a member of the Minehead BID Steering Group with responsibility for Park Street, Holloway Street and Wellington Square, I have circulated regular BID updates and listened to questions and comments and given informed responses to develop active involvement with BID progress.

My work style is that I am a 'starter- finisher'. I enjoy challenges and use my skills and abilities to see the challenges through to completion. As a member of Minehead BID Steering Group I have worked with the group to formulate the BID Business Plan based upon the business consultation results. In order to continue my commitment to the delivery of the BID I wish to be considered for the role of Director in the Independent Retail category so that I may contribute to the delivery of the Business Plan targets within the allotted timeframe and budget.

I believe I have the skills, passion and energy to work as a member of Minehead BID Board of Directors representing Independent Retail. Minehead's independent retailers are positive and optimistic when they speak to one another; BID will empower them to speak together. Minehead BID is a splendid opportunity for the regeneration of our town built upon the collective vision of the business community. BID will make Minehead an attractive destination where people feel safe, welcome and engaged.

Candidate: Jon Lee, Co-Proprietor, Stuarts Home Furnishers Ltd. Friday St.

Testimonial

I have been in favour/supporter of the BID since I was first approached well over a year ago. Since then I have been on the Steering Group guiding the BID through the various stages up to the successful vote.

I have worked in the independent retail sector in Minehead for the past 38 years, latterly as co-owner of Stuarts Home Furnishers Ltd in Friday Street.

The BID is a great opportunity to improve the appearance of our town and to create a more vibrant and appealing place to visit

I am keen to be elected to the new board of directors to help the BID deliver its business plan ensuring events, marketing, cost savings etc. happen and to listen to businesses in the BID area and address their needs where possible

Candidate: Lisa McCaffrey, Parks Lane interiors, 5 Parks Street.

Testimonial :

"On a personal note, we have two retail stores in the town and have had a presence here in Minehead for nearly 40 years. We are a family run business and have an interest as to how the extra money from the BID will be spent, as I am sure this will go some way to retaining our existing customers and also future customers.

Our Minehead community has become quite shattered and I feel that I have the energy and creative ideas to be able to try and bring this town back together. To have us all singing from the same hymn sheet so to speak.

I am a great team player but can also lead should that be required of me. I have great negotiating skills, which will go some way to maybe reducing local business costs, a problem

that many high streets are currently facing. It's not just the digital revolution that is hammering the way in which our high streets are now looking!

All in all, what I would like to see, more than anything is Minehead being back to it's once thriving self, with visitors coming into the town to spend their hard-earned cash and not just staying in their holiday resort. Day visitors will come and spend a great day here and then go home and tell their friends how great Minehead is! As a team with only Minehead's best interests at heart I am sure, without a doubt that this is something that can be achieved!"

Candidate: (proposed by John Clyde –Smith), Danielle Prosser, Beach Hut (Minehead) Ltd. Warren Road

Testimonial

I would like to propose my manageress, Danielle Prosser to the post of director on the Minehead BID Company Board. Danielle and I would work closely together on our ideas and plans for the town although I would prefer her to be the Director rather than myself. The reason is that I spend a good deal of time out of the country and would be unable to attend the various meetings.

Danielle was born and raised in Minehead, growing up above her father's fish and chip shop (Clem's) in Alcombe. She went on to manage her mother's cake and confectionary business before coming to join me. Danielle has been very much involved with local events in the town. She is a very keen and ambitious resident who would like to see the Minehead two-week gala return to the town. She would be ideal for helping to restore the Majorettes, sandcastle events etc. and take an active part in encouraging fellow residents to join in future projects. When it comes to helping promote the town and shake off the general air of lethargy and apathy I could think of no better person than Danielle to do this.

Candidate: Deborah Sawatzki, Owner, Lovely Boutique, 1 the Parade.

Testimonial

I would like to be considered for a board director for the BID as I see it as a very rewarding role to enhance Minehead, bringing together businesses, the community and tourists through marketing and events.

Having worked on the BID Steering Group I would like to see the BID progress further to help it to become a successful venture for Minehead and the businesses involved.

I have had my boutique in The Parade for 7 years, I have also managed retail businesses in different parts of Minehead, and so have a good knowledge of the workings of the town and tourism. In the past I managed a local hotel and worked in catering in the town.

LICENSED HOSPITALITY (2 CANDIDATES)

Candidate: Mark Bouchier, Manager, The Duke of Wellington (Wetherspoons), Wellington Square.

Testimonial

I have lived in Minehead for nearly 3 years now, during which I have got to know the town quite well. Working for chains like Wetherspoons, Rileys and Haven Holidays, I feel that I have developed some good managerial and organisational qualities that I believe could help if I were to be appointed to this Board of Directors.

Although I have not lived here that long, I have heard many comments about things / events etc. that no longer run in Minehead, or that there is nothing for the kids to do. I am really keen to help put Minehead back on the map, through helping to recreate old events/ implement new events and try to get Minehead and its businesses thriving once again.

Candidate: Christopher Corbett, owner The Hairy Dog and Stones, 32-34 The Avenue.

Testimonial

I am Christopher Corbett, owner of the Hairy Dog for over 30 years and Stones Hotel and Restaurant and Bar for the past 5 years. My application is to be the representative on the Minehead BID Board for the Licensed Hospitality.

Prior to moving to Minehead in 1982, I obtained a Masters degree in Business Administration at Aston, Birmingham University. Additionally I have had accountancy training and considerable industry experience.

Minehead is a successful coastal town, but I think it can do better.

As a member of the Board of directors, I can use my experience, as a team member to contribute to the establishment and running of the company. My business acumen and knowledge of the town to work with the other directors to establish a plan to achieve the aims and objectives of Minehead BID, and with the team and BID members, work to implement the plan and build on it for the future.

PROFESSIONAL & OTHER SERVICES (2 CANDIDATES)

Candidate: Gary Stephens, (proposed by Mark Robson), Partner, Robson & Stephens Funeral Services, 14 Park Street.

Testimonial

Gary Stephens would make a good director for the Minehead BID Company. Gary has a vast knowledge of sitting on company boards; at present he is a director of the Bridgwater Guy Fawkes Carnival. Gary holds a 50% share in the new funeral home in Minehead, Robson & Stephens Funeral Services in Park Street.

Gary works for BT and currently holds the post of Global Account Director, which includes the responsibilities of managing Profit and Loss for the accounts he manages.

Gary will bring knowledge and enthusiasm and leadership to Minehead BID Company.

Candidate: Jim Whittaker, Managing Director, Channel Training Ltd, the Adventure Centre Warren Road.

Testimonial

I'm the Managing Director of the Channel Group. Based in Minehead, our companies promote happy and healthy participation in outdoor activities. Channel Training provides a UK wide service to the outdoor industry to train instructors delivers apprenticeships and provides skills development and coaching courses. Channel Adventure runs centres on the seafront in Minehead and on the River Tone in Taunton, as well as providing outdoor learning for schools and community groups. Channel Events is a social enterprise, which runs outdoor challenge events designed to encourage healthy lifelong participation in outdoor activities for all.

I believe I would be able to make a positive contribution to the Minehead BID Board. I'm a strategic leader with significant experience across many sectors. Crucially, I'm a local businessperson with an absolute passion for our town and its community.

I'm a qualified teacher with 15 years' experience at West Somerset College as a teacher and in leadership roles. Currently I'm National Vice Chair of the Association of Heads of outdoor Education Centres. Locally I sit on the West Somerset Opportunity Area Partnership Board and I am developing the West Somerset Employer Group amongst other projects within this role. I'm a member of the Somerset Chamber of Commerce and Minehead Chamber of Commerce. I'm a Senior Helm at RNLI Minehead Lifeboat Station I live in Minehead with my wife and four children.

I'm committed to promoting our beautiful area and working within our tight-knit community to develop employment opportunities, champion small business and encourage positivity. We have so many unique assets here in West Somerset, and Minehead is the focal point for many of them. I would welcome the opportunity to be involved with the new Minehead BID and I believe I would make a very useful and constructive contribution to the work of the BID Board.