



BCCT

News and Update

13 May 2021



Good morning and we hope you are well and enjoying the easing of COVID restrictions whilst remaining safe.

We'd like to say congratulations to all the new and re-elected councillors after elections last week. We look forward to working with everyone and achieving some great things for Bude and its community.

BCCT have recently been busy working on a variety of projects and I have outlined some of them below.

Bude Business Voice

BCCT procured funding to run Bude Business Voice. This project has been running for eight months and aims to give a platform to Bude Businesses from which they can express what they need to operate successfully from Bude. Some of the main concerns and topics to have arisen are:

- Connectivity in terms of transport and internet,
- Lack of skills and vocational training,
- A need for more events and attractions
- An increase in lobbying for support at 'County Hall'.

We have been exploring the idea of a Business Improvement District, similar to those operating out of Newquay and St. Ives, but tailored to Bude. Bude Business Voice is running an event at the Falcon Hotel on the 24th of June. If you would like to attend, please register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bude-business-and-community-tickets-154435501743>

Social Action Fund

BCCT set up a Social Action Fund in partnership with Neetside Community Centre, Christians Together in Bude and Stratton and Bude Stratton Town Council in January of this year in order to help Bude's not for profit organisations further aid our community through the pandemic.

Over £9000 was raised through crowd funding, all of which has now been allocated. A total of 13 grants were awarded across the Bude Community Network Area to organisations including The Pearl Exchange, Bude Food Bank, Stratton Primary School, Bude Primary Academy and Marhamchurch Pre-School.

Economic Plan

BCCT's Ian Saltern is currently well on the way to revising the Economic Plan with support from Bude Stratton Town Council. Once the first draft is completed, a programme of wider consultation will begin. This will involve talking to the relevant parishes, the Town Council and the community and will hopefully garner council approval by this summer.

Bude Creatives

Through the Bude Business Voice project, BCCT was able to allocate some funds to starting a Bude Creatives Project. This has been implemented through BBV and voluntarily. The objective is to create a Bude Creative Hub and to determine what that might look like for our town. After consultation with many extraordinary creative minds in Bude there were a number of suggestions. A performance and arts trail, out of season event or festival, an online creative directory and a hub to share creative inspiration and tools proposed.

The next stage is to consult the Creative Manifesto and attempt to gain funding for this initiative. We are still very much at the early stages but it's proving to be an exciting and popular topic. We need as much community engagement and resources as possible in order to further this project.

Community Renewal Fund

BCCT are currently writing an application to bid for the Community Renewal Fund. This is a bid for £500,000 to invest into skills, community and places, local businesses, and to supporting people into employment. If successful, a plan to put in place several events and festivals, environmental initiatives, better connectivity and access to skills and vocational training could be rolled out throughout the remainder of 2021 and the beginning of 2022.

It's a very exciting time for Bude and we'd love to get any feedback on these topics or others. Community engagement is crucial to creating a thriving town. Please don't hesitate to email or connect with us on social media if you have any questions or suggestions.