

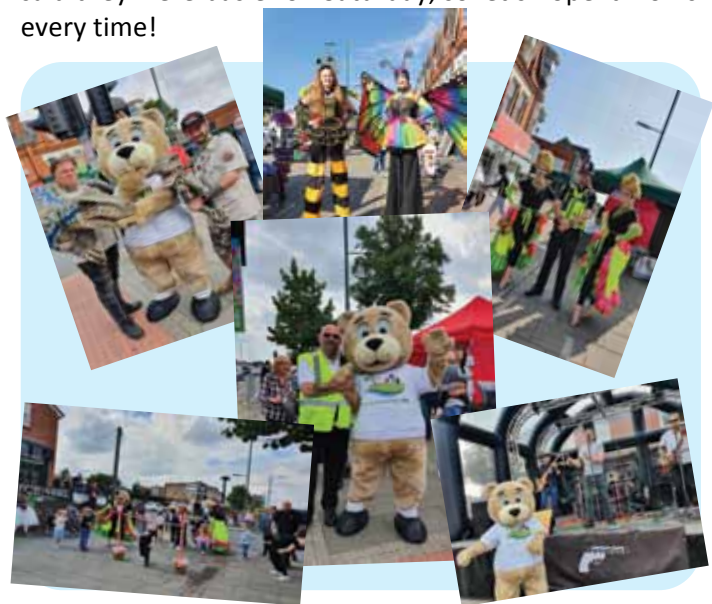
BID TIMES

Summer 2021



Acocks Green Village BID

The 'Bounce Back Bonanza' family fun day event on 18th September was a great success, with free entertainment, acts, dancers, live music and fun and games for the kids. There was a huge amount of people who came to visit on the day and a great time was had by all. We always hope that having events such as this it encourages people to have a look at what Acocks Green has to offer so they come back not only for events but for their everyday shopping. Reports from businesses said they were busier on Saturday, so let's hope it works every time!



THE BID RENEWAL BALLOT is now upon us, and on **Friday 17th September**, you will have received your ballot paper to vote for the BID for another term. We encourage you to return your ballot papers as soon as possible, but in any case, it will need to be returned to Civica in London using the pre-paid envelope provided,

by 5pm on Thursday 14th October to enable it to be counted!

If we are successful, then the new term (BID3) will run from January 2022 to December 2026. You have all had the business plan that you will be voting on (pictured below) but if you have lost it, or need another, then let me know and I can drop one in to you.



It's important to note that there are now over 324 BIDs across the UK and 12 in Birmingham alone, with many more towns and cities going to ballot or to renew this year. Businesses are now beginning to fully understand that without them investing in their own trading environments, then these commercial areas will go downhill drastically with Council and Police cuts. Shoppers will start to migrate to other centres that do have BIDs, and that are more attractive, clean, vibrant, safe and with more going on.

So it is important that you understand the impact that the BID has had on Acocks Green Village so far with £1,186,000 being invested in the last 10 years!



SO MUCH TO LOSE ... Your Village without the BID would mean;

- An increase once again in shop lifting, anti-social behaviour, beggars and drinkers as there will be no retail radios or Town Wardens
- No specialised cleaning (behind shops, phone boxes, bins, and graffiti removal)
- No more free business training and guidance
- No more street events to increase footfall and showcase the Village to get your tills ringing
- No more Christmas lights display (the Council will not fund this as there is no money available)
- No Village planting, hanging baskets, or support for 'Village in Bloom' (again the Council no longer fund planting in centres such as ours)
- No Village social media sites (over 4,380 followers on FB)
- No more marketing & advertising of the Village
- No BID management team to lobby on your behalf, assist your access to grants and help with any problems and issues you may have locally

It's vitally important that you all **Vote YES** to keep the BID in place, to build on the fantastic work that has been achieved so far over the past 10 years. So if you haven't voted already, please post your ballot paper back ASAP and remember to vote YES!

VILLAGE RADIO & SECURITY – July 2021 saw the return of our much-loved former Town Warden John Coyle to assist Ray in combatting crime and anti-social behaviour. I was able to fund that post by applying for monies from the Government's ERDF Welcome Back fund following the lockdowns during the pandemic. John is in that post until March 2022, however Following a successful vote at ballot, we aim to bring in 7-day Warden cover for the Village even after that funding runs out. I will also be negotiating a new radio contract to cover the next 5 years with Apex radios to ensure we have radio communication between the Police, the Wardens and the businesses.



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Pictured above at the fun day are John and Ray (hiding at the back) our two Town Wardens that help keep the streets safe alongside our resident PC Andy Collis. What a team working together to keep AGV safe and trouble free, and plate spinning to add to their talents!

If you have any problems or issues, the Wardens are available to contact on either the dedicated BID security mobile **07539 296148** or if you are a radio user on **S-37 (Ray)** or **S-90 (John)**.

CLEAN & GREEN IN ACOCKS GREEN – Our long-standing BID cleansing operative Ben has been kept busy as always, and removing 143 pieces of graffiti since March 2020. This is an unbelievable amount and we just cannot imagine how the Village would look without the BID providing this crucial service.

I have also managed to gain some funding for a deep clean of the pavements and the removal of the high-level graffiti above Nationwide which will give the Village an overall better look and feel.

Remember that the BID team are here to assist you all, so if you do have any cleaning or graffiti problems, then give me a call on **07415638878** and we'll get it scheduled in to be addressed.

Your BID team, working to keep your Village cleaner and greener, safe & secure with more going on.

