

BID TIMES

August 2013



Acocks Green Village BID

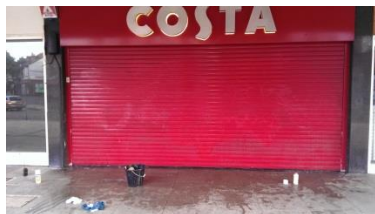
WELCOME to the August edition of BID Times. In this issue we will be giving you an update of the BID projects, and showing some examples of work that has been carried out over the past month or so.

‘GREEN AND CLEAN IN ACOCKS GREEN’ –



Many of you will have noticed that John the BID cleaner and the BID Assistant Dan, have been busy working on the tiresome graffiti that is ever present in the Village. Together, they have been tackling the shutters on the businesses in Acocks Green, and as a result, when the shops are closed, the place looks much neater, evidenced by the great work they did on Costa Coffee shop pictured here before and after.

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Graffiti has always been a major issue in the Village, but with the guys now keeping on top of the problem, we are hoping to wipe it out altogether!

Working with the Council, John is continuing to address the litter and cigarette butt problem, and Acocks Green is looking much cleaner and more litter free.

PUBLIC REALM – The Village is almost complete with regards to the fantastic new street furniture, including brand new finger post signs and hanging basket

columns, all in the same fantastic heritage gold and green design as the bollards and benches.

Alongside the deep cleaning of the pavements that has taken place at the top end of the Village, these public realm improvements have had a real impact on the aesthetic image of Acocks Green. Many of you will also have noticed the new bus stops that also add to the freshness of the Village.



PLANTING – The Britain in Bloom team put in an admirable effort for the judging in July, and the Village anxiously awaits this year’s result which will be at the Awards Ceremony in September. Results will feature in the next edition.



CRIME & SECURITY – September sees the fond farewell of PC Ian Davis who has been working alongside us in keeping the Village safe, and co-ordinating the BID’s Storennet radio scheme. Ian is moving onto pastures new with a well-earned promotion,



and the Village welcomes PC Daniel Poar (pictured). Ian said “I’ve thoroughly enjoyed working in Acocks Green for the past 2 years, getting to know all the businesses and working together with the BID to make the town a safer place. I wish Daniel my successor all the best and I know he will continue to build on the great work we have already started”.

You will have the chance to meet Daniel once he takes the reins, and he is looking forward to carrying on the excellent work that Ian has done during his time in the Village. Welcome Daniel!

FREE BUSINESS TRAINING – Businesses have been visited, flyers have gone out and it’s time to get booking!!

- CIEH Level 2 Food Hygiene course, **Wednesday 18th September**, at Solihull College, from 9.00am to 4.30pm
- H&SE Emergency First Aid course, **Wednesday 25th September**, Solihull College from 9.00am to 4.30pm (Pictured is Hazel from Swan Trio and Jon from Dennetts at the First Aid course last year)
- IOSH Working Safely Health & Safety Qualification course, **Thursday 3rd October**, Solihull College, from 9.00am to 4.30pm



The FREE courses are on offer now, so if you wish to attend (or any of your staff) then email us at daniel@acocksgreenbid.com to book your place or call us on **706 7581**.

TOWN EVENTS – The next BID street event is coming up on the 21st September. We have some fantastic things going on with our resident DJ Ant providing music all day, along with 5 LIVE singing acts.

There will be a guy making smoothies on a bicycle, Mark from Montana Events providing the kids entertainment, the Partybus (pictured), bouncy castle and usual face painters, other small stalls under the canopy, and Punjabi Rasoi the newly opened Restaurant will be coming down with free samples of food for tasting.

If any businesses want to get involved in any way with the event, then please email me on sandy@acocksgreenbid.com with your ideas. And remember to make the most of lots more people being in the Village that day, and advertise your special offers with us through the Village Facebook and Twitter sites! Just email me your offers and I’ll post them.



SNIPPETS....

- Smart Route plans for the proposed A41 changes were on display for consultation in the library earlier this month, so that is now ready to be started in 2014.
- All the money is now in place to buy the Village defibrillator. More about that in the September issue.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE!** I have gathered some information on Small Business Rates Relief (SBRR) which some of you may be eligible for. I also have information on the Hardship Fund, which, in exceptional circumstances, means the Council could reduce all or part of your business rates. Email me on sandy@acocksgreenbid.com if you would like more information on the criteria of either of these two schemes.

Sandy Gianni, BID Manager