

# ISLE OF BUTE

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

## Working together for Bute

### Businesses leading change

#### Progress to date:

Introduction meeting held at Victoria Hotel

Introduction meeting held at Kingarth

Questionnaires delivered and collected

1 -2-1 opportunities with John Weir to ask questions

Website set up

Questionnaires used to formulate our business plan

#### Message from our Chairman

As the Chairperson of the Steering Group proposing an Isle of Bute BID (Business Improvement District), I would like to welcome you to our first newsletter. This is an opportunity that aims to benefit the **whole** island. Deciding to strive for an island BID was of fundamental importance to our Steering Group who wanted to ensure that the opportunities were open to all, would be inclusive, and help us to work together for common goals. We all know what a fabulous island this is, and by becoming a BID we would want to be able to promote the island to benefit our businesses, our residents and our visitors. Through newsletters and our website [www.isleofbuteBID.co.uk](http://www.isleofbuteBID.co.uk) we will keep you updated with our progress.



#### Results from consultation

Over recent months business owners have been given the opportunity to ask questions about the Bute BID at information evenings and have been asked to complete a questionnaire. This is vital for the BID to work out our island priorities for our business plan. We are very grateful to those who have given their views so far. All qualifying businesses on the island will be able to vote for or against the implementation of the Bute BID. Please keep an eye on the website for further information or contact John Weir the Project Co-ordinator.  
[john@isleofbuteBID.co.uk](mailto:john@isleofbuteBID.co.uk) - 07900 067713.

#### 100 and counting!



Marion Cartwright, owner of the Kettledrum Restaurant, pictured with Project Co-ordinator John Weir.

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## Business working with Education

Educations and skills training is important to every business and the young people living on the island; not every one wants to leave the island. One particular person is Yordi McFie.



The BID organised a business leaders “meet the school” morning with the opportunity for businesses to share with the education provider at the Academy what skills they required. Success was the outcome. Yordi gained an apprenticeship from Flexible Technology. At this point in time we have another three companies in discussion with the Academy regarding modern day apprenticeships. If you are interested in discussing apprenticeships please contact Dale Somerville at [dale.somerville@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:dale.somerville@argyll-bute.gov.uk) or John Weir

## Your comments so far.....

- Creation of an Isle of Bute brand
- Promote the island to tourists and coach companies
- Transport links to be addressed
- Address vacant properties
- Training for young people
- Street Cleaning
- Create facilities for young people and children
- Improve and introduce things for visitors to do
- Promotion of our island

## Working together for Bute



## What comes next?

**Our next meeting is on Monday 16th March at the Glenburn Hotel, 5.45pm. Andrew Spence (*BIDAOBAN*) and Phil Prentice (*Scottish Towns Partnership Officer*) will be there to provide information and share the benefits of a BID for Oban and other Scottish regions.**