

PORT TALBOT TOWN CENTRE BID NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2020

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#VIVA Port Talbot



It's been a strange and unsettling few months for all of us and large parts of our town centre have been forced to close. As we are slowly getting back to the new normal we wanted to remind you that Viva Port Talbot BID is now live and working towards making our town centre a much better place to be for businesses and the public.

Am I a part of it?

All businesses with a rateable value of £5k and above in Port Talbot town centre are in the BID whether you voted Yes or No.

In November last year, businesses voted in favour of creating a Business Improvement District in Port Talbot. The ballot result meant that a new organisation was established that is committed to making Port Talbot town centre a better place to visit and run a business.

You have the opportunity to get involved and inform how the investment is made!

What has the BID been up to?

Covid-19 has obviously meant a rethink so we have been:

- handing out recovery packs containing social distancing floor stickers, posters and hand sanitizers.
- arranging an events programme for later in the year but with the current situation, these may be subject to postponement. Keep an eye on our social media pages for updates.
- exploring parking initiatives with NPTBC in the run up to Christmas to encourage more people to come into town.
- sending out e-newsletters to everyone on our contact database. If you'd like to be added please email hello@vivaporttalbot.com

We are always looking for new ideas though so if you'd like to get involved, please get in touch!

Bringing in more resources to invest alongside the levy

Viva Port Talbot is putting together an application to the Welsh Government Coastal Communities Fund which encourages the economic development of coastal communities in Wales by promoting sustainable economic growth and jobs. Applicants can apply for individual grants of between £50,000 and £300,000.

We have some exciting ideas for the town but we'd really like to hear your thoughts. If you have any good ideas that you think the funding could be used for, let us know!



A reminder of our pledges

Over the next five years we aim to:

- Attract people to the town through an events programme
- Incentivise people to shop locally with a loyalty scheme
- Encourage and support new business to start trading successfully
- Strengthen the voice of businesses on matters that affect the town centre
- Tackle anti-social behaviour and increase town centre safety
- Create a more accessible town centre with parking offers.

Cllr Steffan Ap Dafydd

Sadly, one of our board members, Cllr Steffan Ap Dafydd passed away over the summer. Steffan was always an enthusiastic supporter of the work of Viva Port Talbot and was involved in the BID steering group right from the beginning. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

The Viva Port Talbot board

Viva Port Talbot is run by a volunteer board of directors.

Roger Williams - Coastal Housing (Chair)

Richard Jones - Selections Gift Shop (Vice Chair)

Oliver Dineen - Mundo's Bar and Kitchen

Jo Morgan - Peacocks

Nigel Hunt - San Portablo 1901

Ray Oglesby - Barista's

Sally Jones - Resident

Nia Hall - Aberavon RFC

Viva Port Talbot Honorary President

We are delighted that Stephen Kinnock MP has agreed to become our Honorary President. Stephen has been a great supporter of Viva Port Talbot from the beginning and we are looking forward to working with him going forward.

Viva Port Talbot management team

Mandy Jenkins BID Manager

Jade Evans Marketing Assistant

If you would like to get involved in the running of Viva Port Talbot, please contact the management team on hello@vivaporttalbot.com or 07803 503972.

Tell your friends!

We need to be telling as many businesses as we can about the work that we are doing and we do not have contact details for every business in town. Therefore, please encourage your neighbours to get in touch with us and pass on their contact details. We want to do well for all levy paying businesses and the town as whole and communication is key to that.

Like and follow us on social media:

Facebook: [VivaPortTalbot](https://www.facebook.com/VivaPortTalbot) | Instagram: [@VivaPortTalbot](https://www.instagram.com/VivaPortTalbot) | Twitter: [@VivaPortTalbot](https://twitter.com/VivaPortTalbot)