



From Aneesa

Hello everyone,

I am so sorry, there was an error in yesterday's email - the Soapbox Challenge is Sunday 30th June 2024 - not the 16th!! I have amended it below too! My apologies!

A Message from our Chair: Jane Turner

We have got a lot going on in the event diary for 2024, in addition to Colne Town Council's own calendar of events. Here is a reminder of what we have coming up this year, please keep these dates in your diary and get involved; whether it's putting on a special, coming up with a promotion or generally promoting the event and being a part of the lead up – it would be great to see businesses piggy-backing on these events.

– Saturday 24th February: WinterBloom24 Light Festival

- Sunday 30th June 2024: Super Soapbox Challenge
- Saturday 27th July 2024: Colne Food and Drink Festival (Around the World theme)
- Saturday 28th September 2024: 70s Fest

WinterBloom24 Light Festival

Our next event is the WinterBloom24 Light Festival! I am so excited to see this back in the town for this year and next year as we have secured funding from the Arts Council for the next 12 months. The festival has become so much more than an event in the calendar, and includes developing artists, local talent and engaging the community in creativity and art. The date is Saturday 24th February and timings are 12pm to 7pm for the Artisan Market and entertainment, with the Parade start at 6pm at St John's Methodist Church and ending in the bus station. We are also looking for volunteers to push, pull or carry puppets/lanterns for the parade, if you would like to take part, pop me an email on manager@colnebid.co.uk

We were featured on the Lancashire telegraph

here: <https://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/24064373.winter-bloom-2024-coming-colne-town-centre-february/>



Soapbox Challenge

We have had confirmation that Nelson and Colne College will be our Principal Sponsor for the Super Soapbox Challenge 2024! We do still have some sponsorship available, so if you are interested please do get in touch with me on manager@colnebid.co.uk.

The entry is now open too! Link to the entry: <https://supersoapboxchallenge.co.uk/colne/enter/>

And here are the rules: <https://supersoapboxchallenge.co.uk/colne/rules/>



Anti – Social Behaviour in Colne

Our next Youth ASB Working Group meeting is on Tuesday 6th February at 1 pm at Colne Town Hall. It would be great to see you there!

As always please make sure you report it online:

here: <https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk/PEDisclaimer/Create>

Another area to report Anti Social Behaviour is via the Community Trigger at Pendle Borough Council, the form can be found

here: https://www.pendle.gov.uk/forms/form/163/en/community_trigger and to understand more about it click

here: https://www.pendle.gov.uk/info/20031/community_safety/62/community_trigger

You can still report a crime anonymously via Crime Stoppers

here: <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously>

Access to finance

The Lancashire Funding Hub aims to help growing businesses find the right funding to achieve their goals, while providing information and guidance. The Hub includes information on a range of different funding providers such as LEP (Lancashire Enterprise Partnership) Growing Places Fund, the Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund and Innovate UK funding. It also includes insights from specialist funding providers and business leaders who have been on a funding journey themselves.

Find out more by visiting the [website here](#) or give them a call on 0800 488 0057.

Upskilling you and your workforce

Make sure you take a little look around the Lancashire Adult Learning where you can find training courses from First Aid to Arts and Media. Some are funded and some are self-funded so make sure you take a look around: <https://www.lal.ac.uk/>

Don't forget about the Colne BID Upskilling Grant, a grant of up to £500 is available to Colne BID levy paying businesses for training courses that help you

upskill and create additional services to your business. Colne BID could issue a grant of up to £500 or half the cost of the course, whichever is lower, as a grant. The business is expected to contribute at least 50%. For example, for course fee of £1000, up to £500 would be paid by Colne BID and £500 by the business. In the case of over subscription, applications will be assessed by Colne BID board. Applications will be assessed on positive enhancements to businesses located in Colne BID area, contributing to the 'services' of the BID area under the 'promote' business plan objective

Send me an email to get an application form and apply – manager@colnebid.co.uk

Boost Lancashire

Boost Lancashire's Growth Hub has re-launched! A range of business support is now live and available to any business in Colne

Take a look at the website and see what they can do to support your business: <https://www.boostbusinesslancashire.co.uk/>

Lancashire Devolution Deal

I wanted to make you all aware (if you weren't already) about the Lancashire Devolution deal and we are currently in the consultation phase. I attended a conference hosted by the East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce and there is a link to the live stream here: [VIEW LIVE STREAM HERE.](#)

In November 2023, the Government announced it would be willing to enter into a devolution deal with Lancashire County Council, Blackburn with Darwen Council and Blackpool Council.

The deal, if given final approval, will transfer new money and powers from central Government to a newly created Combined County Authority, allowing it to tackle key local priorities.

The deal would not require a change to the established democratic structures across the county or the need for an elected mayor. It will not require an extra charge on council tax.

Take a look at the website to learn more and complete the questionnaire before the deadline which is midday this Friday: <https://www.lancashiredevolution.co.uk/>

Fresh Lick of Paint

Fresh lick of paint grant is still here and ready to go. It has quietened off due to bad weather but let's get ready for spring eh? For more info: <http://www.colnebid.co.uk/apply-now-for-your-fresh-lick-of-paint-improvement-grant/>

- Are you in the Conservation Area? If so, take a look at our easy to read Conservation Area Guide to help you: <https://www.colnebid.co.uk/conservation-area-guide/>
- PBC are also offering a premises improvement grant, which you can apply for in addition to the Fresh Lick of Paint. Again this means you need to check if you are in the conservation area on the link above to ensure you meet the criteria; to apply and find out more visit the website

here: https://www.pendle.gov.uk/info/20022/grants_for_businesses/447/new_premises_improvement_grants

CometoColne.co.uk

Lewis has been working hard behind the scenes getting the website up to date with the new businesses and removing closed businesses. He has also sorted the interactive map and promoted this on our social channels. If you see it, please do share with your networks, it's a really handy little map and if anything, a good reference guide to what we have in the town centre. Please take a look at your business profile and make sure the information we hold is correct and up to date.

If you need to make any changes to your business please email Lewis on officer@colnebid.co.uk

Loyalty Card

The Loyalty Card Scheme seems to be working well, there were a few bumps at the beginning but I think we got there in the end!

If you are not part of the scheme but want to be, please send me an email and I'll pop in with a stock of cards, stickers and a poster.

Send me an email to get an application form and apply – manager@colnebid.co.uk

Sharing is Caring!

I am looking for businesses who would like to help me with video content 'A day in the life of...' these get great engagement and views. People love these videos as they like to see behind the scenes! Send me an email and register :)

Don't forget to use the BID business group too!

Please do share as much as you can with me about your business – any exciting promotions events, good news or updates! That way i can ensure you get as much exposure as you can from us via our social media platforms, continue to tag us on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok using @cometocolne, on Twitter @visitcolne. Or, pop me an email on manager@colnebid.co.uk

You know where I am if you need me – please do reach out if you want to know more!

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