

## Message from the Chair

**I**t is now over six months since normality for all of us ended and I write without first-hand knowledge of life on the estate, having been able only once to come on site since April.

In this newsletter are included reports from some of our BID members about their experiences in the last six months. Some companies have been able to carry on trading and have even seen increased business and at the other end some have had to close, but as far as I know none have yet closed permanently.



The BID's work has carried on throughout, putting our efforts into increased security whilst the park was nearly empty, forwarding relevant COVID-19 and financial help information, reacting to any encampment and liaising at all times with CWAC over conditions on the estate.

You will see from the newsletter that some of the delayed projects are back on course and hopefully this trend will continue. Please make sure you read the 'Project updates' section for a full summary of what has been taking place and future plans.

In other matters, we are seeing a particular problem with young drivers using our car parking areas in the afternoon/evening. I would encourage you all to report any issues of vehicle anti-social behaviour to the Cheshire Police so they can build a picture of the current problem. Report through the '101' system or go online. Unless



incidents are recorded, police will not have the evidence to support the larger picture.

Finally, I do not believe we will be able to return to the way we worked back in 2019 and we should as businesses start to plan for what for us will be the 'new' normal. The BID as usual will be there to help everyone make the transition.

Yours Sincerely,

Jordi J Morell,

Chair of the West Chester Commercial BID Executive Board

## Proximo continue their fantastic charity work

**W**est Chester BID business Proximo have continued their charity work over the last few months despite the challenges posed by Coronavirus.

They have donated clothing to Chester Aid to help the homeless during a critical and difficult time, with those less fortunate needing support more than ever.

On top of this, Proximo have also been donating a mix of warm coats and sleeping bags, as well as smart office clothes for those with interview

applications and potential job opportunities in the coming months.

In other news, this year sees the Hope House and Ty Gobaith duck race go virtual so it's time for Proximo's teams to get creative and try to bag best dressed duck.

All of the money raised from this goes to the Hope House who support families who are caring for a terminally ill child, or those whose child has sadly passed away.



To find out more about Proximo, please visit [www.proximo.co.uk](http://www.proximo.co.uk).

# Project updates around West Chester Commercial BID

**T**here have been a number of developments relating to West Chester Commercial BID's key themes in recent months. Please keep reading to bring yourself up to speed with the most recent information.

## New Signage

The West Chester Commercial BID has agreed to fund three new image enhancement projects over the last year. These all help towards making the estate a more attractive place for businesses and employees to work.

The BID has approved funding for two large signs to be installed too. One will be situated on the land at B&S Group on Sovereign Way, while the other will be located on land at Bromborough Paints on Bumpers Lane. The signage company are now in the process of designing the signs and a draft will be sent to the board in the near future for approval.

## Clean and Green

The BID Team continue to do monthly audits looking to pinpoint and report potential issues. There has been a significant increase in fly tipping on the estate and it is important that you notify the BID manager or CWAC of any problems you discover. You can do this via the 'Your Streets Portal' at [www.westcheshireyourstreets.co.uk](http://www.westcheshireyourstreets.co.uk).

Simply click the Streetcare Pledge tab and then provide the details of your issue.

Streetscene have been busy working despite COVID, cutting grass, weeding, litter picking and trimming overgrown areas on the estate. By working together, we can ensure that West Chester Commercial BID is a great place for employees and businesses to work and do business.

## Security

A continued area of investment by the BID on safety and security was to have extra security patrols with the ongoing funding of Alpha Omega mobile security guards. This was increased following the intrusion of encampments to keep the estate safe. The BID also continues to work with the Police and the local PCSO to combat any anti-social behaviour and we encourage all the businesses to report any issues to Cheshire Police.

## Training

Providing funded First Aid and other training courses for BID members is a top priority for the West Chester Commercial BID, and the BID Team is currently reviewing best practice to ensure training can recommence as safely as possible. The ongoing COVID-19 situation will be monitored closely and the BID Team will look to restart training courses towards



the end of the year. This will require a full Risk Assessment in terms of the premises and equipment, plus investment into PPE for delegates and new First Aid equipment to ensure social distancing can be adhered to during training courses and practical assessments. The training room will also be adapted to allow delegates to remain socially distanced throughout, with smaller classroom sizes to accommodate this. This will of course be subject to the ongoing situation and will only take place if safe to do so.





# Business spotlight: Get to know KOR Energy

**E**stablished for over 40 years, KOR Energy is an independently owned family run business now operating in its second-generation, providing Gas, Water and Electricity distribution connections to home owners and some of the most well respected developers in the UK.

They look after everything from an initial enquiry to designing, planning, installing the main infrastructure, reinstatement and the installation of Gas/ Electricity meters. It is all directly taken care of under the one company umbrella.

With their company headquarters based in rural Cheshire and other strategically placed depots nationwide, KOR Energy is geographically located to work nationally and its areas of operation span from the North of England right down to the South coast.

As the main alternative to the local Distribution Network Operator for the

design and construction of new utility connections, KOR Energy specialises in energising all types of new developments.

They believe excellent customer service and honesty is paramount to their success. Combine this with first-class industry knowledge and highly competitive prices, and that is what makes KOR Energy the automatic choice for residential and commercial utility connection needs.

KOR Energy have built the business from nothing for the past 7 years and now operate with some of the largest developers and principal contractors in the country, employing over 20 operation staff.

In the current climate they're heavily involved with Transport for London and government backed schemes,



which has seen KOR Energy provide the main Electrical Infrastructure off of the distribution network and install all the required Electric Vehicle Charging Points for all bus and fuel depots around London.

They are really trying to do their bit to improve the quality of life we all have by making travel experiences safer, quicker, more convenient and environmentally sound.

## Useful Contacts

If you have a problem, issue or request relating to a matter within the BID, there are a number of contacts and organisations you can get in touch with. Please check out the full list below.

- ▶ Cheshire Police – PCSO Martin Quick – [martin.quick@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:martin.quick@cheshire.pnn.police.uk)
- ▶ Cheshire Police – Joanne Pendry – [joanne.pendry@cheshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:joanne.pendry@cheshire.pnn.police.uk) – Make sure you contact either Martin or Joanne for any issues surrounding ongoing crime matters, Police advice or to report on-going dangerous/obstructive parking.
- ▶ West Chester BID Rapid Text Service – **01606 866658**
- ▶ Cheshire West and Chester Council – ‘Your Streets’ portal – [www.westcheshireyourstreets.co.uk](http://www.westcheshireyourstreets.co.uk) – **0300 123 7036**
- ▶ Cheshire West and Chester Council - Gypsy & Traveller Liaison Officer (Local Authority) - [dawn.taylor@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:dawn.taylor@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)
- ▶ Alpha Omega Security (Bank Holiday Cover periods) – Control Room – **02170258881** or Operations Manager Chris Strange – **07904 331031**
- ▶ Defibrillators – B&S Group Sovereign Way, Monday – Friday, 08:30am-5:00pm – **01244 390215** – Nicol Hughes Food, Monday – Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm – **01244 390929**

# A unique insight into life at Laundry Tec since lockdown

**J**eremy Hartigan, Managing Director of Laundry Tec, provides a unique insight into life at the company since the beginning of lockdown.

“At the start of 2020, I would have been amazed if anyone could predict what the year would entail.

As a major supplier of commercial laundry equipment to the healthcare sector, my company Laundry Tec Ltd envisaged a year of continued expansion. Our market covers new construction sites across the entire UK, after sales and support and also exports.

Our marketing strategy involves numerous awards and conferences. Almost immediately prior to 20th March we were to host a table at an event for 1000 healthcare professionals. Days before, our largest clients withdrew from attending and slightly awkwardly we cancelled our attendance.

Despite feeling slightly sheepish about cancelling, in hindsight it was undoubtedly a wise move.

Workload wise the construction industry marched to a sloth like pace as contractors withdrew from sites for isolation or accommodation issues.

Thankfully although almost all of our healthcare clients commenced home working, online meetings and isolation, our services were essential to control infection and we have attended sites every day.

We immediately commenced every available aspect of infection control, providing numerous changes of clothes for engineers to change between sites, full PPE and even installing a shower at our offices for staff to disinfect before returning home.

On site we insisted all areas we were working in were isolated, and thankfully despite having numerous staff sometimes entering 4 to 5 care homes (including some with significant infection levels), we're proud to say that we have avoided any cases of infection so far.



As we crawl to normality we are extremely confident about the future and are looking to expand staff and resources.

Looking back to working straight through, the days of engineers being questioned about being on the road needing to travel seems almost a dream.

Personally I am still very apprehensive about returning to face to face meetings and office days. Why would I travel all day to London when I can sit behind a laptop and have 5 or 6 meetings a day?

We have learned a lot from lockdown and are reviewing the operational process of the company.

We're also feeling positive and enthusiastic about the new world we're about to enter.”

# Living Floors to help with ‘Design Havens for Heroes’ project

**L**iving Floors have been in awe of the amazing hard work and sacrifice made by all of the key workers during this time of Coronavirus, but in particular they salute those in the NHS and care sectors.

Over recent months the company has been thinking of ways to give back to those that are at the front line of the

crisis and are delighted to announce that they will be involved with the amazing ‘Design Havens for Heroes’ project set up by Interior Designer Francesca Rowan-Plowden.

Design Havens for Heroes will bring together a collective of local Interior Designers, makers and suppliers to create room makeovers for NHS and care staff.



This project will ensure that some of those NHS workers have a fabulous space to retreat to and enjoy at home.

For more information please check out: [www.instagram.com/designhavensforheroes](https://www.instagram.com/designhavensforheroes).