# **Gadbrook Park BID**

Spring Newsletter 2020





### Gadbrook Park BID reflects upon a positive 12 months

The Gadbrook Park Business Improvement District (BID) is reflecting upon a positive 12 months which has seen the organisation voted in again for a further five years and initiatives delivered to benefit companies on the estate.

Since the start of last year improvements have been made into the cleanliness and aesthetics of the park, software has been rolled out to upskill employees and training courses have been organised to allow businesses to stay up-to-date with the latest developments across a number of work-related topics.

Investments have also continued into safety and security, with the Gadbrook Park BID continuing to fund mobile security guards from Alpha Omega, as well maintaining the state-of-the-art CCTV and ANPR camera system and sustaining an excellent partnership with Cheshire Police.

With spring getting underway, Gadbrook Park BID Chair Mike Roberts has spoken about these developments and the benefits they have brought to businesses on the park.

"2019 saw the BID continue to deliver a full maintenance programme of improvements to the Business Park," said Mike.

"During the summer we installed and maintained 21 hanging baskets across Gadbrook Park, providing a vibrant splash of colour for employees and visitors to enjoy, and

the litter picking service continued which further enhanced the overall positive image of Gadbrook Park as a place to do business.

"On top of this regular image audits were undertaken, identifying areas for improvement and ensuring the Business Park looked its best for employers, employees and visitors alike," Mike added.

He then discussed a training package called MicroLearn which officially went live on Gadbrook Park during autumn last year and complements the range of courses that are delivered each month.

"MicroLearn provides cutting edge e-learning resources for companies across a range of different industries with training provided in a range of formats.

"All courses are designed to help employees gain new skills which could benefit them and their company on a day-to-day basis.

"They seamlessly tie in with our popular training courses too which educate and train employees of Gadbrook Park BID businesses. Throughout the last year of the BID, 119 employees received free training, with more to benefit in 2020."

The Gadbrook Park BID team's focus will now be on further enhancing the estate across the main three themes of Safe and Secure, A connected and Supported Business Park and A Greener, Cleaner and Sustainable Trading Environment.



### **Business receives positive event feedback**

A business based on Gadbrook Park has received positive feedback following the delivery of a range of events.

Howard Worth Chartered Accountants runs regular networking initiatives which give attendees the opportunity to meet different people from the world of business and make new contacts.

The events also provide the opportunity for individuals and businesses to speak to Howard Worth directly about finance and tax matters.

Sarah Porter, who is a Marketing Executive at Howard Worth, has spoken more about the events that have recently been held and the comments they have received from attendees.

"We deliver networking events because they offer useful, topical advice for businesses and individuals alike on a range of subjects and we hold our events for both clients and non-clients and professional contacts," said Sarah. "Some comments we've had recently have referred to how friendly and relaxed the events are, how great the opportunities are to speak to experts informally and also how they provide a very useful way to network and build trust."



#### Did you know that your business could benefit from being Disability Confident?

The scheme, which is led by the government, helps those involved to think differently about disability and improve how they attract, recruit and retain disabled workers.

So far over 16,000 organisations have signed up to the scheme, with Disability Confident organisations playing a leading role in changing attitudes towards disability for the better.

By being involved in the initiative your business could recruit and retain amazing people and:

- Draw from the widest pool of talent
- Secure high quality staff who are skilled, loyal and hardworking
- Improve employee morale and commitment by demonstrating that you treat all employees fairly.

It also helps customers and other businesses identify those employers who are committed to equality in the workplace.

Over 8 million working age people in the UK have a

#### Gadbrook Park BID AGM a success

The Gadbrook Park BID AGM has taken place and the event was another success.

Over 20 businesses attended to hear about projects and services that have been delivered and they also had the opportunity to learn about upcoming initiatives.

Following the voting in of the new Executive Board, there was also a presentation from JobCentre Plus on disability accreditation for businesses.

For more information on the latest news from Gadbrook Park BID, make sure you visit the official website: www.gadbrookparkbid.co.uk.



disability and if you're not actively recruiting talent from this demographic your competitors probably are.

Find out how your business can become Disability Confident by visiting the official website now: disabilityconfident.campaign.gov.uk.



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## Message from the Chair - Mike Roberts

#### Hello and welcome to the 2020 Gadbrook Park BID spring newsletter.

At the moment we face unprecedented times in relation to the Coronavirus outbreak and the impact it's having on the whole country.

Rest assured though that the BID is here to support you and we will be doing all we can to help businesses.

Please make sure that you follow all guidelines that are set out by the government and I hope you are all fit and well and remain so going forward.

If you do need advice or support regarding Covid-19, please contact Estate Manager Hugh Shields by emailing hugh.shields@groundwork.org.uk and we will see how we can help you.

Away from present-day troubles, it's been a positive 12 months for the park and we're excited about making the estate an even better place to work moving forward.

One area we have invested in is safety and security, with the continued funding of Alpha Omega mobile security guards and the ongoing maintenance of our state-of-the-art CCTV and ANPR cameras. This is to ensure businesses have a safe and protected environment in which they can work.

I'd also like to say how good it was to see so many teams once again taking part in the annual quiz. There was some great knowledge on show, although the less said about Roberts Bakery's efforts the better! At least we did receive a trophy of some sorts!

Looking to the future and there's plenty going on.

Once again there will be a focus on keeping the park looking great during the spring and summer months and there will be some great courses coming up following on from the new Mental Health workshops.

Due to the ongoing Coronavirus situation the Health and Safety Executive and Department for Education have released a statement which extends the validity of various qualifications by 3 months, including Emergency First Aid at Work and First Aid at Work. This allows any requalifications or courses to be postponed until a later date without impacting businesses or employees.

**Yours sincerely, Mike Roberts** Chair of the Gadbrook Park BID

#### **Gadbrook Park BID offers free Mental Health Training**

Gadbrook Park BID has now added free mental health training to its series of regular courses.

Mental Health First Aid in the Workplace, which is a two day course, was delivered on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th March and is a regulated and nationally recognised qualification that has been specifically designed for those who would like to raise their awareness of mental health.

By going on the course, candidates will develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to promote positive mental health within the workplace which makes it an ideal qualification for mental health champions, human resources, managers and team leaders.

It also covers a range of common mental health conditions including anxiety, depression, bipolar, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).



For more information about the course, please email Stephanie.Leese@groundwork.org.uk or call 01606 723175.

## Make use of the Gadbrook Park BID website

Don't forget that as a business you can take advantage of the Gadbrook Park BID website and everything it has to offer.

On the site you can read all of the weekly news bulletins that have been published and you can also raise awareness of offers or incentives that you're running.

All you have to do is forward your news and information to the Gadbrook Park BID team and they will then organise for this to be uploaded to the website under the 'Amenities and Benefits' section.

Remember that you can use the site via your own personal login details to advertise any job vacancies your organisation might have too. This page is one of the most visited on the whole site so it is definitely worth utilising if you need to fill a position. By visiting the site regularly you can also keep up-to-date with upcoming training courses and read minutes from monthly meetings so you can stay on top of the latest developments that are happening on Gadbrook Park.

Visit the website today: www.gadbrookparkbid.co.uk.



## **Gadbrook Park BID quiz champions crowned**

Businesses from all over Gadbrook Park BID renewed their general knowledge rivalry in January as teams battled it out to become 2020 quiz champions at Vale Royal Abbey Golf Club.

After the ever-popular Lasagne, 14 teams pitted their wits against each other to determine who would lift the coveted Gadbrook Park Challenge Cup and the competition was fierce.

There could only be one winner however so congratulations must go to 'Impeachable Timing' from Close Brothers who managed to edge out 'Howard Worther's Originals' from Howard Worth who claimed second.

'Know it alls' representing Concise Technologies secured third, in the process managing to maintain their impressive run of finishing on the podium. The awards weren't finished there though as Roberts Bakery's 'Stairway to Leaven' went home with the wooden spoon trophy and the ladies at Eurocamp were given the best team name for 'Hoof Hearted.'

The Gadbrook Park BID team would like to thank all teams for taking part.

Keep an eye on our newsletters for announcements regarding next year's quiz.



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