



## Byres Road & Lanes BID

### Shopfront Improvement Grants

Byres Road & Lanes Business Improvement District (BID) is pleased to announce that it is offering grant assistance to business owners to help with the cost of improving the appearance of their shopfronts. The Directors of the BID are keen to improve the appearance of Byres Road & the Lanes within the BID area. If this could be achieved, it would enhance the experience of customers and visitors and this would, in turn, increase the volume of trade. Much of Byres Road is within the Glasgow West Conservation Area, where there are strict planning requirements for shopfront alterations, however the Board of the BID would like to see these standards maintained along the length of Byres Road.



*C. Bell's Shop, now the Clydesdale Bank*

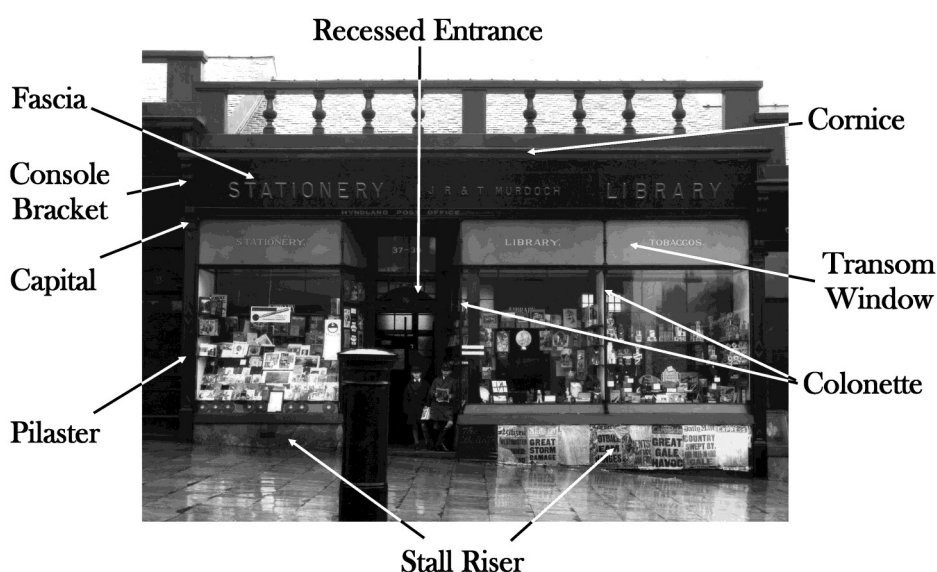
Basic details of the scheme are as follow:

- ◇ A single grant of up to £500 may be made at the discretion of the BID Board towards the cost of work which will improve the appearance of the shop frontage.
- ◇ Where the proposed works involve the restoration or improvement of an existing original or traditional shopfront, or the works will recreate the style of an original / traditional shopfront, the maximum grant available is £1000. (Good examples of original / traditional shopfronts are Kember & Jones and Vintage Guru. Good examples of a recreated traditional style shopfront are CCW Clothing and JoJO Maman Bebe.)
- ◇ The grants are 'match funding' – i.e. the business owner must be spending the same amount (or more) on the work. For example, if the total cost of the works were £750, the maximum grant would be £375. Payment is by way of reimbursement to the business owner once the work has been completed.
- ◇ A grant application must be made on the form for that purpose which is available from the BID office at 61 Byres Road, or from the BID website <http://www.visitwestend.com>
- ◇ The application must be accompanied by drawings or plans showing the proposed works in sufficient detail as to be clear, and a detailed quote for the works from the preferred contractor (s). Preference will be given to applications where the preferred contractor is local.
- ◇ The business owner must have obtained permission from their landlord to carry out the work, and must have obtained all necessary planning & listed building consents and building warrants.
- ◇ The application form, drawings, and quote, will be assessed by the BID's Grant Officer, who will, if necessary, visit the premises and discuss the plans with the business owner. The Grant Officer will report to the Board of Directors of the BID and make a recommendation either to approve or decline the grant, and if to approve, the amount of the grant.
- ◇ Award of the grant, and the amount of the grant, will be entirely at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the BID, whose decision shall be final.

An award will be confirmed in writing. The business owner will require to counter-sign the award letter agreeing to be bound by the terms and conditions. If the business owner is a limited company, the directors are required to personally guarantee the obligations of the company.

- ◇ If a grant is awarded, it will be paid to the business owner (a) on production of the invoice(s) from the contractor(s) for the works; and (b) confirmation by the Grant Officer that the work has been completed substantially in conformity with the plans submitted, and to a reasonable standard.
- ◇ In limited circumstances the grant will be repayable, for example, if the business owner ceases to trade from the premises or sells the business within one year from the date of payment of the grant.
- ◇ The scheme comes into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016. The total amount of grant funding available is £3000 per year: applications will be dealt with in the order in which they are received. Once the total amount available has been awarded for the year, no more grants will be considered, although the BID will carry forward applications to the following year if requested to do so. Applications will only be considered from business owners who have paid the BID levy in full, or are paying in instalments.

This is a summary of the Byres Road & Lanes Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme. Full details are set out in the application form and the terms and conditions attached to it.



**Byres Road & Lanes BID**

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