



Minutes of the Chamber Meeting

Wednesday 16th April 2014 – Churchill Bar, Wadebridge

President: Mr D Walford
Chair: Mr A Jones
Vice Chair: [Position Vacant]
Hon. Secretary: Mr D Rowe
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs N Brookes

Present: Adrian Jones, Dominic Walford, Pete Soybe, Stephen Knightley, Stephen Frankel, Philip Mutton, Rupert Wilson, Tony Rush, Lucy Dawe, Matt Saunders, Caroline New

Apologies: Richard Alexander, Steve Coom, Mel Hardie, Fi Jolly, Mike Walford

Minutes: Laura Knightley

Police Report

Crimes recorded between 17/3/14 and 16/4/14: one crime of theft by employee.

PC Pete Soby discussed 'Safe Place'. Safe Place is being rolled out in parts of Devon & Cornwall by Adult Care, Health & Wellbeing, Devon & Cornwall Police & Cornwall People First.

The scheme helps people with learning disabilities deal with incidents that take place when they are out and about in the community – for example harassment or bullying.

The idea is simple – stickers are issued to establishments that sign up to the scheme and people with learning disabilities carry a card with emergency contact details on. The staff in the Safe Place will be able to assist anyone that goes to them.

The Chamber fully support the Police with this concept.

Sgt Robin Moorcroft is due to retire in June; anyone wishing to make a donation towards his leaving present please contact Pete Soby on 07595 011122.

Town Team

At a recent meeting with the Area Network Manager David Chadwick the idea of a Town manager was discussed. It would have to be a paid position – suggested the section 106 money may be able to cover it. This concept has been previously looked at before, it was once suggested that Wadebridge & Padstow Chamber could merge business rates to employ a Town manager. They also discussed the Town Team and how it could act as a focal point, the Town team could work with the Chamber on events and other work.

Adrian discussed the structure of the Chamber, and how a change would be imperative in taking the Chamber forward. Adrian suggested that we have a board of officers to help us achieve our goals. The work load for the Chairman alone is unsustainable, which is why a change of structure would be a good idea. Adrian believes that quarterly meetings would help facilitate people's involvement and get engaged with the Chamber. The Chamber needs professional capacity to sustain.

An advanced proposal was made and it was agreed how important it is to promote the fact that major changes to the Chamber need to be discussed and implemented. A change of structure will be discussed at the AGM.

The next AGM will be on 21st May 2014.

Adrian believes the Chamber needs to be about;

- Improving the commercial life of the town
- Core representation of Wadebridge

At the AGM other items on the agenda will include;

- Board member – from different sectors
- What the Chamber is about
- Campaigning
- Proposal to be agreed of what an executive will do

Love Wadebridge

Love Wadebridge is close to being finished. Adrian would like the finished process to be easy & enjoyable for site users.

Breakfast Meeting

After the success of the last meeting the next Breakfast meeting will be held on 6th May in the same location. Martin Bail will be attending.

AOB

WREN are developing a sunshine tariff, if any companies want to sign up please contact Stephen Frankel.

Tony Rush proposed the Town Council will take on financing the Christmas lights this year. The Chamber however, has some money from 2013 that was donated for the lights.

Neighbourhood Plan: Once the NHP has been completed it becomes law to determine planning restrictions in our local areas. The NHP started evidence gathering two years ago. The Town Hall held an exhibition to which 250 people attended. It should be finished by May. All documents shown at the Town Hall can now be seen online at <http://www.wadebridgearenhp.org>

NB: next meeting dates will now depend on the outcome of the AGM proposal to move to a board structure with quarterly general membership meetings.