



Minutes of the Chamber Meeting

Wednesday 19th February 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 (Chamber Chair), Nicki Kimberley (HSBC), Rupert Wilson (Ship Inn/Little Plates), Tony Rush (Wadebridge Town Mayor), Mel Hardie (Arty Crafts), Stephen Frankel (Carhart Mill & WREN), Rob Harris, Lucy Green & Kay Barkham (Anns Cottage), Stephen Knightley (Cornwall Councillor Wadebridge East), Philip Mutton (Trebur Estates), Richard Alexander (Alexander & co), Nicola Brooks (Brooks & Jeal & Chamber Treasurer), Claire 'O' Connor (Trendspot Ltd), Pete Soby (Police)

Apologies: Pam Starling (Wadebridge Deputy Mayor), Dominic Walford (NCA/Sticky Fingers/Chamber President), Steve Coom (Razor Solutions), Nick Shelley (Shelly Electrical), Darren Lewarne (NatWest)

Minutes of Chamber meeting January 15th 2014 agreed.

Matters Arising:

- We have made contact with David Chadwick to arrange a date to meet, date TBC.
- We still have the opportunity to go to Falmouth Innovation Centre. If there are enough people interested they may be able to facilitate bringing some of their products to Wadebridge.
- Lanhydrock are trialling 20ft wind fences. We have been invited to visit and see the results.

Treasurers Report

We currently have £5,000 in the bank. £2,300 is from the Christmas light donations which we will carry forward to use for lights/repairs. We also have £1,000 of Portas money to go towards maintenance. We have about £1,900 free for working capitals.

There are still many subs due. Reminders will be coming out over the next couple of weeks.

Police Report

Crimes: In the past month there have been 16 crimes recorded.

Shopwatch Radio's: this has now gone live and the 10 shops currently involved are:

- Save the Children

- Fusion
- Ocean Blue
- Robertsons Jewellers
- Bricknells
- Glanvilles
- Spar
- Co-op
- J Shoes
-

Tesco wanted to get involved but unfortunately the signal didn't reach that far.

Rupert added that the Drugs Awareness training held at Tesco was very informative.

Members Offers Package

We would like to see benefits packages for individual businesses. Reg Hambly has previously discussed the concept of group insurances. We also discussed breakfast business meetings.

The Love Wadebridge website will be ready to go in one week. It is a good opportunity for businesses to advertise. There is no fee and it is not restricted to Chamber members.

The Chamber are providing this service to help promote Wadebridge.

Steve Knightley feels that free wi-fi in town would benefit businesses. Could the Chamber action this?

Sproull/Chamber Breakfast Meetings

The Chamber and Sproull Solicitors are pleased to announce a new series of Power Breakfast meetings to get local businesses networking. There will be one meeting a month starting on Tuesday 4th March, 8am at Sproulls Molesworth Street office.

The first is entitled "Commercial Leases: Obligations and rights of landlord and tenant."

There will be a 15 minute presentation followed up by 15 minutes of questions and then closing with 15 minutes of networking.

Each meeting will be done by 8.45 and tea, coffee and a light breakfast will be provided.

Meetings will alternate between legal subjects and more general business areas.

If you have any ideas you would like to discuss please speak to Adrian Jones.

Barclays will also be hosting breakfast meetings. They want feedback about what people want to get from it. Topics such as International Trade – thinking beyond the high street.

Sainsburys

The build will start in late March and should be done by November. We are planning a meeting with them. They will be doing a presentation.

Adrian suggested it could be a big opportunity whilst the construction takes place. Workers will use B&B's, restaurants, entertainment.

Wadebridge will benefit from Section 106 agreements. Sainsburys are paying Cornwall Council £800,000. The Council will then pass what is left to the Town Council. A lot of the money has already been ear-marked for projects including:

- Traffic measures
- town centre parking
- local training
- camel trail improvements
- bus stops
- car parking
- and more

We need to establish how we apply for grants before we lose our opportunity. We want to make the money work for the town. Our aim is to invest it with a capacity for it to expand. At the moment to benefit from cheaper parking in the town centre you need to go to Sainsburys to get a concessionary ticket. This will not benefit the town centre. We want to negotiate this with Sainsburys. We feel it would be beneficial to speak to Penzance's Chamber to see how they made the Section 106 money work for them.

We suggested having a sub group to take on the S106. They can attend Council meetings to negotiate on behalf of the Chamber. Stephen Knightley, Stephen Frankel, Tony Rush, Philip Mutton, Adrian Jones volunteered to join the group with the hope of inviting Scott Mann and Jeremy Rowe. Steve Knightley proposed and the Chamber seconded.

Update on events

The events group met to discuss a timetable of events. Sarah, Dominic, Mike, Brian, Rupert, Robin and Adrian are looking to umbrella events from 1st June to August Bank holiday.

AOB

Steve Rushworth has started a Twitter based service called Browsa. It lets you know about shop offers in town. Steve will be giving a presentation to the Chamber about the service.

Stephen Frankel acknowledged the momentum that Adrian Jones is bringing to the Chamber.

We need to elect a Deputy Chair. Adrian has proposed we will hold a meeting to discuss this in 2 months.

The beach clean at Polzeath was a great success.

Tony stated that Wadebridge got away lightly during the recent flooding. However we need to press our Councillors to improve our flood defence system.

Date of next meeting February 19th (then March 19th, April 16th, May 21st, June 18th July 16th, August 20th, September 17th, October 19th, December 17th)