



Minutes of the Chamber Meeting

Wednesday 20th November 2013 – 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, Nicola Brooks, Stephen Knightley, Mel Hardie, Nicole Broody, Nick Shelley, Kay Barkham, Steve Lang, Philip Mutton, Stephen Frankel, Nigel Davey.

Apologies: Tony Rush, Dominic Walford, Anna and Rob, Jason & Randy Henderson, Steve Coom, Rupert Wilson, Chris Hewitt

Minutes: Laura Knightley

Minutes from previous meeting read and agreed.

Police Report

SGT Robin Moorcroft introduced Wadebridge's new PCSO Pete Soby. He started on the 5th November and has been trying to introduce himself to the community.

Since 16th October there has been six crimes in Moleswoth Street;

- Theft from a motor vehicle
- Burglary attempt at the Churchill Bar
- Theft from a shop
- Theft
- Burglary from till at Card Bar
- 1 criminal damage

The Chamber discussed Shopwatch – it was agreed that there wasn't a great need for it. People felt that the walkie-talkie which costs £30 was a reassurance tool rather than a prevention tool.

Wadebridge has been given £1000 for new CCTV.

The "Insight Patrol" has started again. Members of the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council will be going out with Police. If anyone is interested in going out on patrol on a Friday or Saturday night contact Adrian Jones. It will help to gain insight and help to understand how big the area they cover is and the diverse issues they attend to.

The Chamber suggested a visit to the Bodmin Station would also be beneficial. Sgt Moorcroft said that this

could be arranged if enough people were interested.

Treasury Report

Current balance is at £7,500, however, £3,000 has been designated to the website funds. We have also paid £2,520 for the new bridge lights.

Lots of donations have been coming in since the appeal was put out for the town Christmas lights. The Chamber would like to thank everyone for their generosity. We will put something in the paper.

We will have £1,600 to carry over to next year which is amazing. The Chamber thanked Nicole for sorting out our finances and being so committed. We also thanked Philip Mutton as he had previously offered to bankroll the lights if we hadn't raised enough in time.

All together very positive!

Lights and town decoration group

The Chamber is often laden with the responsibilities surrounding the towns Christmas lights. We discussed other sources of help with the lights including;

- The town as a whole
- The Rotary Club
- The Lions
- Town Council
- Churches

We discussed Mousehole's concept of Christmas lights – people come to see them – could Wadebridge aspire to be more creative in the future to help cement Wadebridge on to the map? There are other spaces other than the town centre that we could put lights including the other side of town. We also discussed under lighting the bridge arches.

The Chamber discussed the roundabouts leading to town. We feel that they are under used. They would also make good places to display Christmas lights. We could coordinate with local gardening clubs and schools to help maintain them.

The Christmas lights will be going up on Sunday. There will be 2 groups morning and afternoon. They will be out up whatever the weather. The Lions will be taking down the bunting on Friday.

Portas Funds

Guy Thomas had a meeting with Stephen Knightley about the Portas funds. Wadebridge was given £10,000 and so far has only spent £3,000. Guy would like to discuss the concept of mini bids and how they can combine with Section 106 funds with the Chamber. Other towns have made the money work really well for them. The Chamber agreed to Guy giving us a presentation. The Chambers concern at present is who would have control of the money?

Late Night Shopping

Late night shopping will be on 13th/14th December. Most events are already in place but we need to publicise ASAP.

We have six banners from last year, we need to get the date changed. We have set aside between £500-£600 on promoting the weekend. Adrian Jones has designed a poster, several members of the Chamber agreed to print them so they can be displayed in the towns shops. The Dance Event also needs to be promoted – we discussed using the Wadebridge school parents email to publicise.

The fireworks will be at 8.30. We still need to organise collection buckets. Stephen Knightley to enquire with the Council regarding licences for collecting. We need to provide six stewards to enforce the boundaries. We also want to see the firework companies risk assessment. The Chamber would like to thank the Bricknell family for continuing to provide a first class display at a very reasonable cost.

Any other business

The Smart Innovation Hub needs people to know what its about, it needs to be mainstream. The Town Council are meeting to discuss its aim, content and purpose. There is an event at Falmouth College that Stephen can facilitate.

Mel Hardie brought to the Chambers attention that charity shops in town are receiving discounted business rates because they sell old/used goods. However, a few are selling new goods despite being charged discounted rates. It was not felt that this was fair on other shops paying full rates in town. It was also suggested that the Chamber could write a letter highlighting our issues with the rates charity shops are charged. People forget that the charity shops have the strength of a very large organisation behind them.

The next meeting will be in 3 weeks due to Christmas activities.

Date of next meeting 11th December (then January 15th 2014, February 19th, March 19th, April 16th, May 21st, June 18th July 16th, August 20th, September 17th)