



Wadebridge and District chamber of Commerce

President: Mr G Stanbury

Chairman: Mr D Rowe Vice Chairman: Mr D Walford
Hon. Secretary: Mr A M Gregan Hon. Treasurer: Mrs A Jackson

Minutes of the December Monthly Meeting of the Wadebridge and District Chamber of Commerce which took place on Wednesday 16th March at The Churchill Bar, Wadebridge

Present:, Dominic Walford (Vice Chairman Riverside Financial Advice Centre) Steve Knightley (Mayor), Rachel Daniel (One Step Ahead), Fiona Jolley (NCA), Stephen Frankel (Carhart Mill), Mike Walford (Folk Festival), Nigel Flanagan (Ralph & Co), Sarah Prosser (Local Eyes), Rupert Wilson (General Manager for Steins Seafood), Carrie Macrae (Macmillans Cancer Support, Lynda Thomas (Marie Curie Cancer Care)

Apologies: Darren Rowe (Chairman), Ann Jackson (Treasurer), Jason & Randi Henderson (Elixir), Harriet Wild (Town Councillor – Congrats!), Grenville & Susan Stanbury (Kittows), Robin Moorcroft, Phil Chanter and Helen Lentern (D&C Police), Mel Hardie (Arty Crafts), Philip Mutton (Trebur Estates), Sarah Hargreaves (Bridge on Wool)

Minutes of the last meeting were proposed as accurate by Rachel Daniel and 2nd by Fiona Jolley.

Mid Summer Madness Sponsored Walk

Lynda and Carrie from Macmillan's and Marie Curie Cancer Care spoke about the up and coming fun walk to raise money for the Charity's on the 18th of June. They stressed that this was not just for ladies to participate in and want to get men and families involved. They had 150 last year and want to double it this year. There will be several walks to choose from to get involved in:

- 6.30pm – Walk to Padstow for families. Buses will be on hand to return participants to Wadebridge afterwards.
- 7pm – 8pm the walks start to Padstow and back again.

Registration is from 5pm onwards in Bridge Bike Hires side yard. Thank-you to Nigel for assisting here. Cost is £15pp for adults and children are free. This is to cover the buses, administration, first aiders and refreshments in Padstow (Bacon rolls and drinks)

There will be a band on the Piazza before the walkers leave to add to the atmosphere. Goodie Bags for all involved will be given at the end. The contents are donated by businesses supporting the causes.

Rupert kindly offered to have Steins Fish and Chip restaurant donate a % of any participants takings to the charity's. This will be discussed further with Carrie and Lynda.

Any businesses wanting to participate as a team, help and get involved or donate to the Goodie Bags, please contact Lynda on 01872 260500.

Treasurers Report

Ann was not present this month so we have not been able to provide a report. A full report will be available next month.

Matters Arising:

WREN: Stephen Frankel said there was a fantastic response from the WREN launch which is being built on fast now. They have had many households take up the free solar panels which will generate approximately 500,000KW of power. Added to this there are at least an equal amount of businesses doing the same. The Network is well on its way to generating their first Megawatt of power which is a real milestone.

They have the attention now of Chris Hume the Environment Secretary, looking closely at Wadebridge as an example what a town can do in this area and supporting its own community, which will put Wadebridge as the map in the years to come.

Stephen asked for those who haven't joined WREN to please do. It's only £1 which allows you to quote at the meetings and help decide on the direction WREN should take and ultimately where the money generated should be spent in the community.

There is a steering group meeting at the Higher Tenant Committee Meeting at 1pm Wednesday 23rd Feb for all members (who have paid their pound subscription) to organise the next step including the inaugural general meeting. Stephen particularly highlighted the importance for industrial businesses to get involved with WREN as their large roofs would be especially rewarding.

Loyalty Cards have been looked at by Stephen Frankel. There are several different systems available from just general lists of shops participating and rewards cards to proper electronic systems with card readers etc (which cost money for the retailer per month). Dominic has the information from Stephen (thank you Stephen) and will read over it and report back next meeting. Rupert mentioned that Padstow already have a scheme and will provide Dominic the details. Rachel Daniel was unsure of whether businesses would pay for involvement, even though these schemes have proven very successful in Tavistock.

The Chamber of Commerce **website** (www.wadebridge-chamber.co.uk) has been rating at the top of search engines, and generates over 800 hits a month. This not only promotes and gives us control over Wadebridge content, but also creates awareness for business listed in the members directory. If you are a member, make sure to e-mail the Chamber of Commerce website to get yourself listed. There will soon be a separate WREN page and a link to the Wadebridge People website. (www.wadebridge-people.co.uk)

For members who want to pay less for a stand at the **Royal Cornwall Show** – there is still one stand available. There are huge savings for being part of this scheme so get in touch if you're interested. Flowers are available to be hired to brighten up stands. Hobgoblin Music will join the Chamber this year and take a stand at the show. They promised to provide a few musicians to play over the 3 days in the area.

Supermarkets - Grenville in his absence, asked Dominic to bring up the Council notes and reasons on the rejection of the Morrison's and Sainsbury's application. Morrison's was rejected on grounds of inappropriate location and competition to the towns businesses if built with Sainsbury's. Sainsbury's was rejected on the combination of the Morrison's was being built and the impact to the town. Dominic in his view said that he felt that Sainsbury's would take it to appeal (possibly costing the Council over £250K in costs if they win) and would probably win or would submit a new application with new 106 contributions to help mitigate the effects of their arrival. Stephen Knightley confirmed that this was probably going to happen with a new application going in on 1st April.

Rupert advised that he was aware that Sainsbury's were considering paying for the Camel Trail upkeep as the grants from the council were looking to be cut.

Any Other Business

Dominic thanked the Town Council for the £500 grant towards the Chamber costs.

Dominic thanked the very generous collection made by Mel Hardie at her Mother's funeral towards the Christmas Lights appeal. She has collected over £207. Dominic also sent Mel the Chambers condolences.

Mike Walford advised that the **Folk Festival** is getting bigger and more diverse. They have nearly booked all the acts, bar one. The NCA will have the exclusive line first in next months paper and the acts will be posted on the website. These will include an African Djemba Drummer who will perform and do some workshops, an Appalachian Mountain Singer/Storyteller and some young up and coming acts that will bring some lively entertainment to the weekend.

The **Royal Wedding** was discussed and should the town do anything? From the members present, there was not a great deal of enthusiasm. Dominic suggested if anyone wanted to organise something to approach him to discuss and he would assist them.

Steve Knightley explained that the Town Council has just set up an **umbrella group** committee to absorb the role of Town Centre Manager of the town. This would be a sort of 'community committee' with details to be finalised. Darren and Harriet volunteered to represent the Chamber. First meeting is this coming Monday at 7pm in the Town Hall for those wanting to attend.

Harriet asked Dominic to still appeal to everyone about the Wadebridge **Big Lunch Street Party**. The chosen date is Sunday 5th June on Molesworth Street at 1pm. So far the entertainment is almost all organised. Letters are in the process of being distributed to local businesses when time allows, and this explains what's going on / when / how / where etc. If anyone does have any time on their hands, a desire to make bunting, a great idea about how to get everyone together or **access to lots of tables and chairs** please get in touch with Harry in Elixir Health Foods or harry_wild@hotmail.co.uk

Sarah Prosser informed us on Sarah Hargreaves idea of running a **fund raising Bingo night**. Basil and his wife (the towns long standing Bingo team!) will organise everything and run it. They will need donations from Businesses for prizes. The money raised will go into the Christmas Lights Appeal so Dominic has urged retailers in particular to support this as they are the businesses that will benefit most £4 a book that allows you to participate in all the games, get free tea and coffee and raffle tickets for the donated prizes from businesses.

It is expected to raise over £300 if we get 60-70 people there.

Location will be in the Town Hall on either 22nd June, 20th or 27th July. Date to be confirmed.

Dominic mentioned about possibly having a cash bar on the night for extra revenue and fun?

Rupert asked the members if anyone would like to get involved in the **Clean Cornwall group**. This was set up as a movement group to get the public to keep their town clean. They organise over 500 days a year in the county where people meet up and pick up litter in their town area. Padstow do 3 a year generally which are well attended.

If anyone would like to get involved please contact Dominic who will put you in touch with Rupert. Dominic's number is 01208 815411 or email him at: dominic@bedrock.uk.com

Finally – a reminder that the new **subs are due!** £50 this year. What will this give you and where will it be spent? Here's a reminder:

- A chance to voice your views in all of the major and minor towns issues
- Access to the business directory on the website
- Get information about business ideas and issues that affect you. If you have something that you think should be shared with everyone, email it to; dominic@bedrock.uk.com
- Your money will go towards the £3000 costs for fireworks and Christmas Lights being put up and down.
- Supporting the ongoing development of the town. The Chamber Committee do not get paid for the work they do, as it is voluntary. Darren and Dominic have invested a huge amount of time and effort in the past year or so to get the county's view of Wadebridge as a progressive and involving town. With more money in the pot the Chamber do more to attract visitors and businesses to the town

**Next Meeting: 20th April at The Churchill Bars (upstairs) 5:45pm
Bring a new member or a friend!**

AGENDA

- Apologies
- Minutes of the last meeting
- Matters arising
- Crime Prevention
- Activities/Umbrella Committee Update
- Treasurers Report
- Any other business
- Date of next meeting.

Annual subscription payment – due now please.

Please accept the following cheque for £50 made payable to Wadebridge Chamber of Commerce

Business name: _____

Contact: _____

Email address: _____

Would you like to be included on the website: YES/NO

If so please provide us with the contact person and telephone number for Steve Coom of Razor Solutions to contact you

Name: _____

Tel: _____

You do not have to attend the meetings to be a member. Thank you for your support.

The Chamber Committee.