



Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 18th April 2012 – Churchill Bar, Wadebridge

President: Mr D Rowe

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

Present: Dominic Walford (North Cornwall Advertiser & Sticky Fingers), Sarah Prosser (Local Eyes), Darren Rowe (Riverside Financial Planning), Ann Jackson (Treasurer), Rupert Wilson (Seafood Restaurant & PATBF), Rachel Daniel (One Step Ahead), Stephen Frankel (WREN & Carhart Mill), Anna Davidson (Wadebridge Bookshop), Phil Chanter (Devon & Cornwall Police), Richard Alexander (Alexander & Co), Carole Bourne (Indigo), Nicki Kimberley (HSBC), Eric Gill (Town Council), Jenna Heywood (Ann's Cottage and Minute Taker)

Apologies: Phillip Mutton (Trebtor Estates), Grenville & Susan Stanbury (Kittows), Rob Burton (Wadebridge Bookshop), Chris & Dave (The Vines Greengrocers), Chris (The Picture & Coffee House), Richard Alexander (Alexander & Co), Pete Chapman (Carnival & Lyons), Simon Townsend (Crealy), Darren Lewarne (Natwest)

Minutes from March's meeting were proposed as accurate by Darren Rowe and seconded by Rachel Daniel.

Formal introductions were made and the chamber welcomes a new face - Nicki Kimberley from HSBC.

Treasurers Report

For this year which started in March, there are 25 paid up members. If you have not yet paid up for the year it is £50, a new application is at the end of these minutes.

Crime Prevention Report – From Phil Chanter

There were three recorded crimes in Wadebridge town centre for the period 16/03/12 -18/04/12 two of them were commercial burglaries to shops. For the same period last year there were two crimes, Wadebridge as a whole is just under 2% down on crime for the year to date, however some of our neighbouring towns have seen a 13% rise.

We would ask all businesses to be extra vigilant at this time and if you have CCTV systems available please make sure that they are in proper working order and that there are staff that know how to operate it, valuable time has been wasted recently waiting for CCTV evidence to be viewed and downloaded.

We would also ask that if you do see or hear about something suspicious that you call us, the non emergency number is 101 and can be used 24hrs a day 7 days a week, other contact methods can be found on the Devon and Cornwall police website.

Matters Arising

Jolley Ball – 8th September - The Pavilion Centre at the Royal Cornwall Showground

Sarah Prosser is still busy organising the Dinner and Dance and everything is in hand. It is going to be fabulous night, tickets are £50, and profits will be split between the chamber and a charity of Fiona's choice. The evening will be a black tie event and will include:

- Casino
- Live band

- Charity auction
- Three course dinner
- Drinks on arrival

The tickets will be on a first come, first served basis. There has been a lot of interest and the chamber is giving family, friends, colleagues and chamber member's priority. Sarah hands out leaflets about the event; you can reserve your ticket now and pay at a later date. If you are interested please contact Sarah on: 01208 814018.

It is looking like the tables will easily be filled and there is not much room for expansion as Dom & Sarah would like to keep the dance floor free of tables. It was discussed that St Enodoc Golf Club should be approached, Darren says that Tris Lang should be person to do that. Rupert says that The Seafood Restaurant have their Christmas parties up there so he can provide 'crowd control' advice if needed.

If you have any quality products that you would like to donate to the Charity Auction, then please contact Dom.

Christmas 14th – 16th December

The Town Hall has been booked for the whole weekend and the chamber has had a lot of success in getting craft stalls confirmed who can trade there. The capacity is 26 and this will be made up of 3x2 tables, traders can reserve two tables if they wish. The chamber is positive that they will fill the hall. Sarah hands out booking forms for the craft stalls, if you know of anyone who might be interested in having a stall then please let them know and to contact Sarah sarah@local-eyes.co.uk. The chamber will make a good £400 profit if all the tables are booked.

Dom is looking at getting professional stilt walkers for the weekend, they walk around dressed as Jack Frost etc, this would be a great spectacle, provide quality entertainment for the town and the chambers reaction was positive to this idea. Dom is looking at a company called [Stiltskin](#), he will bring some pictures to the next meeting.

Darren says that the man with the bungee will be along again, hopefully with teacups that work this time! Rupert mentions having a fun fair, it is agreed that would be good and could possibly go behind Lidl's. The date for putting up the Christmas lights is Sunday 25th November and Nigel is getting back to Darren with quotes. Dom tells us that a logo is going to be made up for the Christmas, so that the whole weekend can be branded and advertised well, the Regatta will also have a logo.

Regatta 18th & 19th August

Dom and Sarah have recently had a meeting with Rob Moorcroft, Rupert and Rob – Padstow's harbour master. Here is an idea of how the proceedings will take place.

Saturday:

- 6.30pm High Tide
- Gig race from Rock – Wadebridge from 3pm onwards
- 6pm Raft race from Anneka's bridge to the main bridge.
- Mid-afternoon – marquee with live music
- Sharp's Brewery beer tent with a beer festival with Stuart Howes (Sharp's Head Brewer) choosing his top 30 favourite real ales.
- Music from the Shipwrecks (who have recently been praised for their help in raising funds for Cancer Research)
- Dom in talks with John Brown from the Fisherman's Friends about making an appearance, Dom should be able to get at least a few of them – which will be fantastic to raise awareness of this new event. He is conscious about not upsetting the Shipwrecks and wants them to be involved.
- 11pm license

Sunday:

- Crealy will be along with characters and a kids club
- Canoe racing in the afternoon
- Tug of War
- Chris Rea from Harlyn Surf School will be along with paddleboards to try
- Rounders, Stalls, Bouncy Castle etc
- Fun Fair*

*Although at the moment the council are worried about the ground, so once Sarah & Dom have done risk assessments etc they can get back to us on this. As Stephen says other towns that have premium grounds can do this so in order to evolve the events in the town a solution should be made for this problem.

Due to the tides the Regatta could not be linked in to the Carnival this year, which is the last weekend in July. However next year it will be. As Rupert says there is also 'Camel Week' it would make sense to have this week of sailing leading up to the Regatta.

WREN

Stephen Frankel gives us update on WREN's activities. Stephen and WREN are helping the community with two key objectives: helping local businesses build on what WREN offers – Sarah will be working closely with businesses in the future helping them get the most from renewable energy. Secondly there is the EcoPark proposal (a low carbon enterprise zone in Wadebridge that the chamber voted for last month) which the Cornwall Development Council and Cornwall Council are very positive about, this is very likely to become a reality but what will decide it is how many businesses express an interest in locating to the EcoPark. With the green credentials it will attract small, high power companies, they just need to prove that businesses will get involved to receive the funding. If anyone is interested or knows anyone that has an eligible business then please contact WREN email energy@wren.uk.com, there is space for 30 units. If you need more explanation on the EcoPark and its possibilities please see the [WREN website](#).

Wadebridge is gaining more and more credibility within the renewable energy sector, which will see Stephen and the Mayor heading to meet the Queen! WREN have been selected as one of the organisations to meet the Queen on her Jubilee tour of the UK.

Wadebridge has had more good news with WREN and The Vines Greengrocers being nominated for Cornwall Business awards, The Vines is shortlisted for Best New Company and WREN for Best Third Sector. Wadebridge is also going to feature in June's edition of Cornwall Life with the focus being Bridge Bike Hire.

Membership to WREN is just a £1, it is completely owned by its members so if you joined you would have just as much say as anyone, so if you are not already a member, please join [here](#).

Town Centre Manager

The Chamber has been in recent meetings with the Cornwall Council, Town Clerks and Gavin Smith (Cornwall Planning Officer) to discuss how to use the money from Sainsbury's Supermarkets – the Section 106 agreement. Dom hands around copies, if you would like to be emailed the agreement please contact Dom. Discussions will soon be underway with Dom, Sarah and Town and County Councillors about using Section 106's funding to pay a TCM. It would be fair to say that it is going to be a tough job for the Chamber to unlock the funding for a TCM, but the chamber is sure that it is a positive step and will carry on working towards it. It is now written into the Section 106 document that funding is for a 'Town Centre Management Function' which could mean anyway to manage and market the town and not so much to fund a TCM wages. Sarah Simms, who works for the council as local area networking manager, values a TCM and has presented ideas to the Town Council about the benefits, she could possibly come and talk to us and the council, as it will be the council who administers the Section 106's money. In June's Chamber meeting Falmouth's TCM - Richard Gates will be coming along to present to us, so please join us for that meeting, the chamber also hopes to get members of the council along so they can hear the benefits that a TCM can bring - which will include fundraising, pulling all town's events together and being a positive point of contact for all retailers. It may be that business rates are increased slightly via a BID process to fund projects like a TCM, but the outcome will be worth it. In Falmouth, Richard has an event nearly every weekend drawing people to the town and bringing income to the local retailers. Stephens says that the chamber should formally decide that they want a Town Centre Manager, he proposes the vote which is seconded by Darren, everyone votes for the TCM so the vote is passed. More developments on the TCM to follow.

Bunting

This matter has been resolved as Peter Chapman is going to gladly leave the bunting up, the chamber will make a donation of about £200 for the welfare of the bunting. It will then be up all summer to create a merry atmosphere for Wadebridge!

Any Other Business

Electric Cars

Part of WREN's progress is to see Wadebridge as part of an e-car community. The Vine's Greengrocers are looking to going mobile with a delivery service soon. They would like the use of an electric van and they will also have a charge point at their shop. For your information, there are also two charge points up at Higher Trenant Council offices. If you are interested in having an electric hook up, which the fitting needs to be funded by yourself (£250 approx), the installation power points are available from WREN free of charge. Another positive benefit of having lots of these charge points are that they show up on a national map and if people see a cluster of these points in North Cornwall, in our town, then this will draw people to Wadebridge.

Sunday Trading

The chamber is keen for Wadebridge to be known as a town that is open on Sundays. Anna tells us that Chris from the Picture and Coffee house, was open over the Easter Bank Holiday and that he did very well. Darren recalls a trip to Padstow one Sunday and it was very busy, with plenty of shoppers with bags in hand. Sarah would like this to be discussed further next month with the retailers and get everybody motivated, it will take a while to create awareness but long-term this would benefit the retailers once Wadebridge is established as a town that is open Sundays.

Westcountry Housing

Westcountry Housing have been in touch with Darren as they propose to build 6,500 properties locally and they would like a member of the chamber to go along to the board meetings, where they discuss where they will be located and who should have them. Dom volunteered to go along to represent the chamber.

Website & Member applications

Darren praises the new application form, which can be found at the end of the minutes. In the near future you will be able to pay your membership via PayPal. The website is undergoing development which includes an A-Z directory by business name rather than category, icons showing which businesses are working with WREN and a Regatta, Christmas and Carnival page which will be user friendly and informative. The [Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page](#) will also be used much more regularly so please 'Like' us!

Wadebridge Camels – Well Done!

Rupert says that a formal 'Congratulations' should be passed on to the Wadebridge Camels for winning the Cornwall Cup, Dom will send to Coach Nick Yelland, Andrew Hawkey and John Warrick.

Jubilee Opening Hours

Following on from discussion regarding Sunday opening, so much is going on that week that hopefully most shops will be open, as Darren says Easter weekend was fantastic and really busy. Carole from Indigo says the money does have to be coming in for it to be worth retailers opening, she finds that on Mondays when Relish isn't open she struggles to get the footfall in Foundry Court. Anna says that if there was someone there to motivate and support people that would help, this is where a Town Centre Manager could come into place, supporting the shops and bringing them together like Mel did at Christmas. A TCM would also make sure that no areas of the town are left forgotten and that when events are on, entertainment is rotated around the town. Another area which was discussed is opening Wadebridge till 6-7pm one night of the week, possibly Friday. Similarly to opening on Sundays it would take a while to create awareness, but it would be great to pull tourists in from the local holidays parks etc, also for locals that work full time it would create an extra window for them to come in and do some shopping. Sundays and evening shopping is something Sarah promises to discuss further in the future, ideally a subcommittee of retailers will be created to help move this along.

Town Band

Eric asks if the band can practise on the streets on a Friday evening and Saturday Morning, Dom agrees that this will be fine. Eric also mentions about playing at the Royal Cornwall Show, Dom says retailers wouldn't want too much noise as it may disrupt conversations with potential customers, Dom will contact Eric about this.

Annual Town Meeting

Thursday 26th April – this will be an open meeting if anyone wishes to attend.

Next Meeting: 16th May 2012 at the Churchill Bars (upstairs) 5.45pm – all are welcome.

Agenda:

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Treasurers Report
4. Crime Prevention
5. Matters Arising
6. Sunday/Evening opening
7. Events Committee update
8. Other business

If you would like to become a member of the Chamber please contact Dominic. Alternatively you can use the application form.

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