



## Minutes of the Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2012 – Churchill Bar, Wadebridge

President: Mr D Rowe

Chairman: Mr D Walford

Vice Chairman: TBA

Hon. Secretary: Mr A M Gregan

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs A Jackson

**Present:** Darren Rowe (Riverside Financial Planning), Dominic Walford (Plug into the Sun), Ann Jackson (Treasurer), Stephen Knightley (Mayor - Wadebridge Town Council), Rupert Wilson (Seafood Restaurant & PATBF), Grenville & Susan Stanbury (Kittows), Phillip Mutton (Trebur Estates), Rachel Daniel (One Step Ahead), Mel Hardie (Arty Crafts), Yvonne Robinson (The Heat Store), Angela North (HSBC), Stephen Frankel (Carhart Mill), Sarah Prosser (Local Eyes/Zanzig Marketing), Nicola Brooks (Brooks & Jeal Accountants), Kay Barkham (Ann's Cottage), Hannah Pearn (Ann's Cottage), Nicky Ryland (The Tea Shop/Flo's Carnival), Lisa Arcari (My Place in Cornwall), Phil Chanter (Devon & Cornwall Police), Jenna Heywood (Ann's Cottage and Minute Taker)

**Apologises:** Mike Walford (Folk Festival), Darren Lewarne (Natwest Bank), SGT Moorcroft (D&C Police)

*Minutes of the last meeting were proposed as accurate by Darren Rowe and Mel Hardie.*

Dominic begins the meeting by wishing the chamber a very happy New Year and welcoming new members; Nicola from Brooks and Jeal Accountants.

Thoughts are quickly with the loss of our dear friend Andy Jolley. He was a wonderful man, a great friend and a valuable member of the chamber, he will be sorely missed. A minutes silence is held to remember him and all he did for the chamber and his town. Our thoughts are with Fiona, Dan, Kirsten and his family. Dominic passes on a message from Fi saying she would like to thank everyone for their support and tributes over the last month, it has been greatly appreciated.

### **Christmas Weekend 2011**

Overall the Christmas weekend was a success, although of course we can do better next year. The weekend would have benefited from better weather. Mel from Arty Crafts said that on the whole, the shopkeepers are behind the weekend and between them they raised £385 to pay for advertising costs. With help from the Advertiser they produced some great leaflets and posters, which went down well but these will need to be done earlier this year. Mel said that most shopkeepers paid £10, which they were more than willing to do, so next year they can do even better.

Rupert & Dom both said that you have to build on it, year upon year. Padstow is now in its 4<sup>th</sup> year and going strong. Dom says that they will start a Christmas committee in January/February, with an aim of getting the flyers out in late September. Rupert advises that it is best to strike while the iron is hot and to start as early as next month, he says to get a core of key people together and get preparations and ideas in place before the shopkeepers hit their busy summer months.

The Santa Run was great; it looked fantastic and sold out. Luckily it was all finished before the bad weather started and Stephen the Mayor tells us that £400 profit was made which goes towards the guide hut.

Mel says that it was worth being open on the Sunday which is good news. She also was hoping to have a breakdown of the costs of organising Christmas. This will be helpful as then she can speak to the shopkeepers and give them the total costs and they can work out how to fund it throughout the year. Dom says that there are lots of things the chamber have to pay for that people aren't aware of. Dom will supply Mel with a breakdown of costs.

There was a big level of donations, with a grand total of £3500. The chamber would like to officially thank everyone who donated. Next year it has been suggested that the collecting tins should go out sooner to the shops, this year they raised £155, putting them out earlier this year should increase this total.

Darren pays a special thanks to Nigel and Stefan from Davey Electrical, who were fantastic. They put lots of hours in to get the Christmas lights ready, one night even working till midnight! Darren also says this was the very best year for volunteers to help put up the lights, so many thanks to all that helped. Dom gave a formal thanks also to Mel and Phillip who were brilliant, Tim & Tina in the Glasshouse for the loan of their premises for the Santa's Grotto and of course to Andy who always helped a great deal in the run up to Christmas.

Darren proposes to use 2011's donations to buy some new lights for 2012. Sarah asks if you can you get them any cheaper at this time of year, but unfortunately the chamber has tried this before without success, same goes for using old lights from other towns. Moving forward, the Davey Brothers are pricing up a 'Welcome to Wadebridge sign'. For Christmas 2012 they will not be having the Christmas trees and boats on Eddystone Road as they are getting worn. The chamber would also very much like to finish the blue light canopy as it is a main feature. Stefan is going to get the cost of the colour changing lights that Camelford has.

Mel and Darren talk through having fundraisers throughout the year to raise money and to get the Co-Op and Tesco involved. Darren suggested getting local businesses to sponsor the lights in return for free advertising. Mel suggests a 'sponsor a bulb' scenario, where we cost the price per bulb and get a number of companies to pitch in. The new halogen from Camelford are £2.50, so this idea could work well.

To thank the Davey Electrical brothers, it was suggested that they should always have an advertising board up. They have had drinks bought for them from the chamber but Dom puts it to the group to ask if there are any other suggestions of what to do for them. Nikki has previously given them to cash for helping with Carnival, a meal was also suggested. The group decides that a meal for all their family would be appropriate, possibly at Bistro Mix or The Glass House.

Then discussions turn to the Sunday Cornish Market. Phillip says each stall paid £30, the day was reasonable although with better weather it could have been a lot more successful. He would do it again if people wished. Mel says that it would need to be advertised better. She said people asked her why it was not on the main street, to which she answered simply that Phillip had organised it and it is on his land, where if it was held on Molesworth Street you would have to pay for the road to be closed. Rachel re-iterates that it would have been a lot more successful if the weather had been better. Rupert says to price up a marquee similar to Padstow. Nikki said from experience that it would not be easy to put up especially in Winter. The Mayor suggests the Town Hall. Dom says maybe to spread it out and encourage a flow of footfall around the town. Dom also wonders that in future do we forget about the Saturday and just keep it to the Friday night and Sunday, as Wadebridge will be competing with the major cities. Rachel says this was a particularly quiet Christmas, probably due to the economic climate and also that people do want to do their shopping all in one hit and go to Plymouth or Truro, this is a shame as Wadebridge has so much to offer. Nicola from Brooks and Jeal says to wait and see how many traders you have interested in the Cornish Market and then decide whether to spread it out or not.

Phillip says if we decide to have a marquee then you can't spread it out, other problems with a marquee include location as Co-Op car park won't allow it with disabled access problems and so on. Lisa says you only really need a bit of cover. Grenville also thinks the Town Hall will be a good idea, as a marquee will be difficult in December. All this needs to be decided with a working group.

Sarah suggests creating sponsorship packages for the banks and supermarkets to entice them to support Christmas, a Guide similar to Padstow's could then be created telling people what is on and where. Rupert advises that Dom talks to Visit Cornwall for a donation, Dom will do this.

There are lots of things to discuss so it needs to be decided who will chair the Christmas committee. Mel, Darren and Dom all say they are keen to be on Christmas committee and Nicola says she would help with any numbers. Rupert is keen to talk to Co-Op, Visit Cornwall and the Council and thinks that getting a date for the first meeting is crucial. Rupert will get back to Dom with dates he is available and the first Christmas committee meeting will be organised. Anyone can join the Christmas committee and if there is a certain area individuals would like to be involved with then that can be arranged. Please contact [Dom](#) if you are interested.

Other points regarding the weekend were that the Big Bang youth band Dom organised were very good and went down well, they did have an unknown brass band turn up expectedly near Co-Op but it was nice to have them!

Nikki and other people who own hospitality businesses in the town were unhappy with the additional caterers that were there, therefore the chamber lost out on a £250 donation from one of these businesses. It was debated on whether to have them as families with children do find it easier to have some food on the go rather than going into pubs. Therefore this will need to be discussed at the Christmas committee meetings. The Committee will then have to come to the September Chamber meeting with their proposal, which will get put in the minutes, then any persons opposing can be heard and in the following meeting it will be put to the vote. You do have to be at the meetings to be able to vote and decide what happens next year.

The Mayor checked with Phil from the Police about whether street traders can just turn up and unfortunately it is within their rights to just turn up.

As a few last notes on Christmas, Nikki would like the remaining two carnival boards back, Dom knows where they are and will get them returned. If anyone has any collecting tins please return these to Kittows. Phillip suggests that the chamber should go further than the shops to get donation and go to all the local dentists, accountants and landlords. Money should start to be collected from February.

Dom says that when it comes to membership money it needs to be made clear when the next year starts, so for your information the chamber works from March onwards. Please be aware of which years membership you have paid for.

Many thanks again for everyone that donated we would like to thank everyone individually but there are so many of you and as Lisa says, it is not just about money, it is also about your time, so a big thanks goes to all that supported Christmas.

## **Matters Arising**

### **Royal Cornwall Show**

This year Dom and Tony Gregan will be helping with the organisation of the show and they have a meeting January 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Jolley Ball**

Sarah has made a fantastic suggestion of a 'Jolley Ball' in honour of Andy. This will be sometime in the summer and it will be a black tie event with casino, sounds like a lot of fun and we will keep you posted on this. Profits will be split between a charity of Fiona's choice and half will go towards the chamber and events for the town. Dom will run this by Fiona first.

### **Rock Oyster Festival**

There has been a complaint against their license and they may have to cancel the event, this will be a great shame so Dom wrote an email on behalf of the chamber with unfortunately little/no joy from the Planning Department.

### **Sainsburys**

The Section 106 agreement from Sainsbury's is sent around the room, it proposes a number of things with the main benefits to the town being extra parking and a grant to spend on improving the town centre.

The Mayor describes an effort to get more people into Wadebridge town that shop in Sainsbury's, the idea is to have a ticket machine that gives a free ticket to park in one of Wadebridge's three car parks, which is valid for 7 days. The aim is to encourage footfall into the town but will it work? Dom says often the reason for not coming into town is that there is not enough space to park, which brings us onto another proposal from Sainsbury's which is to have an extra 60 parking spaces behind Lidl's, which will also include a link onto the Camel Trail with picnic area.

Darren then talks about the possibility of having a Town Manager to help decide on how to spend the money from the 106 agreement and also to pull all the town's event together. The Mayor says that the chamber, two parish councils and the town council will group to decide on how best to spend money. It has also come to Dominic's attention that Tesco's has entered into the 106 agreement adding another £125,000 which can be spent on town. Rupert agrees that a town centre manager would be a benefit, committees and work groups are great but you do need someone to pull it all together. He suggests looking at Falmouth, they have a Town Manager called Richard which works well for them. Dom says to get him to a meeting to advise on the situation as He has already spoken to him. Darren says he has always thought it to be a good idea to have a Manager, even if they just get paid for day a week or two days a month. Dom says it will probably be about two years before Sainsbury's is open, so there is plenty of time to think about what to do with money and the marketing/management of the town.

Stephen asks if it would be possible to have Tesco's grant any sooner than planned so this will be worth the chamber looking into. Dom tells us that we have to be careful as it is within the supermarkets rights to withdraw the money if it is not spent correctly, so it is within the towns best interests to make sure it is spent in the best way.

### **What's on Wadebridge**

Chairman, Pamela Starling and the rest of the committee meet fairly regularly, it has been noted that people are not always aware when these meetings are happening, for information the next meeting is Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January. As Sarah says it is a good central resource as they have a list of all the town's events.

### **TIC**

The Mayor suggested that maybe the Town Manager could also run the TIC? If funds are available it would really help benefit the town to have tourist information. As part of the 106 agreement Sainsbury's is going to get a live interactive board in the store presenting tourist information. Dom has asked the planners to get this to become a permanent feature in the store. Sainsbury's will look after it cleanliness wise, but the chamber will be responsible for what information is shown. It would be a nice idea to have the same set up in the Town Hall and Rupert suggests a duplicate in Tesco's.

### **Chairman and Vice Chairman.**

Dom asks if there are any volunteers for Chairman and Vice chairman. Conditions are that you have to be a paid up member and be proposed and seconded. Lisa Arcari from My Place in Cornwall & Sarah Prosser from Local Eyes have volunteered for the roles. If you are interested in either position, please put yourself forward and come to next month's meeting where there will be a vote.

### **Treasurers Report**

It has been a good year and there is money left to spend on Christmas lights if agreed once they have been priced up.

### **Crime Prevention**

Phil tells us that overall it was a well behaved Christmas. New Year's Eve had an impressive zero call outs.

Prior to Christmas there was a window broken in Spar and an assault in Molesworth street.

Phil would like to talk to Steve Coom from Razor Solutions about having a link on the [Chamber](#) website to the [Devon and Cornwall Police](#) website. Other news is that their Chief Constable has recently stood down and a new one has yet to be found.

Also unfortunately the Devon and Cornwall Police want to reduce the number of officers on our local neighbourhood teams. As the crime rate is low in Wadebridge it seems they are victims of your own success, the chamber will write a letter expressing their concern on this matter.

### **New Year's Eve Fireworks**

The town council were given a formal thank you for the brilliant firework display on New Year's Eve.

### **Carnival Committee**

Nikki Ryland tells us that she is stepping down from carnival committee this year, but will still be involved. Nikki is in discussions with Wadebridge Lions and they might take over. The committee is very low on members, so if you would like to help then please see Nikki in The Tea Shop. Dom urges people to join the committee as it is an important part of the Wadebridge calendar and it will be great to tie it in with the Regatta this year.

### **WREN Community Fund**

Six very worthwhile local causes have submitted applications to the first [WREN Community Fund](#). Voting for the current round of applications begins at 11.30am Saturday 21st January 2012 at the Energy Shop on the Platt in Wadebridge. Voting is open for four weeks, to all members. The six groups are Wadebridge Foodbank, Wadebridge Youth Project, Moor Harmony North Cornwall Chorus, Wadebridge District Guides, St Minver Silver 'B' Band and Wadebridge Lawn Tennis Club.

### **Brooks and Jeal Accountants**

The chamber then welcomes new member Nicola from Brookes and Jeal accountants, who moved to Wadebridge from Rock, last June. They are situated on Eddystone Road opposite Wadebridge Wines. They are chartered accountants and offer a friendly service with free initial consultations.

### **St Breock School**

St Breock school are holding an event in honour of the Olympics. They are holding their own Olympic flame passing and making a human chain from Wadebridge school, linking in the Town Hall steps and back up to St Breock school, although we have no date on this yet. The Mayor says that a local man James Ross is going to be an Olympic flame carrier, which is marvellous news.

**Annual General Meeting**

This is to be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February. All are welcome and we will be voting in a new Chair and Vice-Chair. All members please attend.

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**If you would like to donate, become a member please contact Dominic. Alternatively you can use the donation form below.**

Dominic Walford: [dominic.walford@plugintothsun.co.uk](mailto:dominic.walford@plugintothsun.co.uk) Mob: 07875760933

**Next Meeting: 15th February 2012 at the Churchill Bars (upstairs) 5.45pm – all are welcome.**

**Agenda:**

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Chair and Vice Chair election
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting
- 4. Matters Arising
- 5. Treasurers Report
- 6. Crime Prevention
- 7. Events Committee update
- 8. Other business

**Annual subscription payment – due now please**

Cheques made payable to **Wadebridge Chamber of Commerce**  
C/O Town Hall, Wadebridge

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 monthly meetings to be a member. Your financial contribution will aid the progress and development of Wadebridge town and ultimately your business**

**Thank you for your support  
The Chamber Committee**