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## 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 September Monthly Meeting of the Wadebridge and District Chamber of Commerce which took place on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September at The Conservative Club, Wadebridge.

**Present:** Stephen Frankell (Carhart Mill), Dominic Walford (IFA and Sticky Fingers Nursery), Darren Rowe (Riverside Financial Services) Mike Walford (Wadebridge Folk Festival), Phil Chanter and Helen Lentern (D&C Police), Helen Ostle (Relish Food & Drink), Tony Gregan, Mel Hardie (Arty Crafts), Michelle Haseldine (The Blind Company), , Carol Davey (Camel Canoe and Kayaks), Yvonne Robinson (Heat Store).

**Apologies:** Grenville and Susan Stanbury (Kittows), Harriet, Jason and Randi Henderson (Elixir Heath Foods), Graham Masters, Fiona Jolly, Sgt Robin Morrcroft, Sarah Townsend and Sarah Prosser.

**Minutes of the last meeting:** Proposed and accepted

### Matters arising:

▪ **Supermarkets Planning Applications – Section 106 Agreement:** Following the discussion of the offered £500k support from the proposed supermarkets at previous meetings the Chamber is now asked to provide a 'wish list' which would be included, and form, part of the planning applications as and when they are submitted. Items such as free in town parking for residents, Molesworth street pedestrianisation and a town manager were discussed. **Members should submit their ideas ASAP to [darrenrowe@thinkpositive.co.uk](mailto:darrenrowe@thinkpositive.co.uk)** for inclusion. Selected members of the Chamber will attend a meeting hosted by the Town Council on 29<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the proposals.

**Formal Objection** – Following feedback from the town's businesses, Tesco's has raised the most concern amongst residents and businesses. The Chamber has given it's support to a formal objection to the planning application insrtucted by Stephen frankel (LoveWadebridge). In order to underwrite the costs of this objection, members are asked to make a small donation towards the costs. Approximately £1k is needed. A donation of £50 was suggested which would also include the membership this year for all non members wishing to contribute. Members wishing to make a donation, of any amount, should contact **Darren or Dominic**

▪ **Camel Trail:** Members discussed proposed plans for the redirection of the Camel Trail (via Bash baagan / Co-op). A survey (provided by the Camel Trail Partnership) indicated that 95% of trail users at one of the Bike Hire businesses would still visit the town centre, even if the route did not take them directly through the town. A further feasibility study is to be undertaken regarding the route, and also investigating costs for coloured tarmac and better signage. A public meeting will be held later in the year to discuss the findings.

▪ **Folk Festival:** The 2010 Folk Festival was agreed by all to be a huge success with more visitors than ever before. Learning have been made and some positive changes will be made to improve and grow the event even further in 2010. These include encouraging more of the areas younger population to get involved, more street entertainers, and street decorations. Also discussed was the possibility of making the event part of a 'Wadebridge Festival' including both the Folk Festival and Carnival. It was also proposed that more people are involved in the organisation of the event,

rather than just Mike to help spread the increasing workload. It was also felt that more support could come from the town, and the Town Council. Any members wishing to volunteer to be part of the organising committee should email Mike Walford.

- **Goldwing Event:** The Goldwing Motorbike Club event at the showground was a great success and the group donated £860 to the Chamber funds. The club plans to return in the future.
- **Sunday Opening:** A letter from a local B&B owner to the Chamber raised the issue of Sunday opening hours, stressing that guest had to travel to Padstow or further in order to eat out, or have anywhere to visit in the area on a Sunday. It was expressed that businesses in the town should be doing more to encourage visitors to stay in the town on a Sunday. These comments were agreed by organisers of the Folk Festival, who were asked to recommend places to eat in the town on a Sunday evening. Further consideration should be given to the matter especially around busy holiday periods. Members felt that unless all businesses joined together to make Wadebridge 'open' on a Sunday it would not be worth opening.
- **Crime Prevention:** 9 incidents were reported on the Platt, with 50% being alcohol related. Some shoplifting has also been reported, and the theft of takings from two members of Boots staff making their trip to the bank. Members were encouraged to avoid making bank trips a routine outing.

26 written warnings have been issued in regards to parking violations in Molesworth Street. **Members are reminded NOT TO PARK in the street. A town Councilor and a chamber member have received such a letter.**

7 outboard motors were stolen from boats on the river. An problem that was experience in the wider area.

The police will be hosting an open evening at the secondary school on 6<sup>th</sup> October. All members are welcome.

An incident was reported on Fernley road, involving two man in a dark blue 4x4 stopping a little girl on the way to the childminder. A neighbours concerns were raised and intervned before anything occurred. Parents are asked to be vigilant and be aware of the situation.

Overall crime in the area is 5% down on the same period last year.

- **Chamber Website:** The Chamber website is now up and running - [www.wadebridge-chamber.co.uk](http://www.wadebridge-chamber.co.uk) Members can have details of their business listed for free. A link to your site will cost £25.00, which will generate further funds for the Chamber. Please contact Dominic on **07875 760933** for details of how to do this.
- **Wadebridge Chamber – Moving Forward**  
Dominic outlined his ideas for the future of the Chamber and the ways in which it can work to generate more business for, and improve the town. With the success of The Big Lunch it is felt that more events should be planned for the future. Events such as a Regatta, Easter Egg Hunt and Raft Races were suggested with positive feedback. Jubilee Park was mentioned as a good venue and a site that is currently underused. Any members wishing to make suggestions or get involved should email Dominic.
- **Xmas Committee Update:** With funding from the Town Council now finished a request would be submitted to Co-op. It was also agreed that rather than a Christmas Lights committee an events committee would be formed to help with events throughout the year. It was agreed that **Canon Bill** would be **approached in regards to having the youth choir perform at one of the late night shopping events. Shipwrecks have also been approached and will hopefully be performing.** It was also agreed that Pirate FM would be invited again. Stephen Frankel offered to help with this, and also further street entertainment, which had been well received during the Summer. Michelle and Yvonne also agreed to join the activities committee, along with helping with Christmas

activities. Volunteers are also needed for the Grotto. Tony offered the help of Fiona and Andy for the goody bags.

- **Treasurers Report:** 20 new members were reported to have joined the Chamber.

- **A.O.B**

**October Meeting:** The October meeting is to be held at the Conservative Club on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> at 5.45pm. New members are encouraged to attend!

**Precious Lives Charity Dinner and Auction Evening:** The event will be held on . 6<sup>th</sup> November at the Metropole Hotel, Padstow.

**Wadebridge Cancer research Group: Are planning a “Turn Wadebridge Pink Day” on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October.** They are organising a pink window display competition.

**Royal British Legion:** Will be hosting an evening to commemorate the Battle of Britain on 16<sup>th</sup> October with a concert by the central band at Wadebridge School. They will be approaching local businesses for sponsorship.

**New Chamber Logo:** A new logo is being developed free of charge, for the Chamber by a local designer - watch this space!

**Royal Cornwall Show:** Tony apologised for the late arrival of the accounts for the event, due to attendees having only just paid. Andy will be taking over from Tony in this role. 16 requests have already been received for places at next years show!

**Sunday Opening:** A discussion was held about Sunday opening in Wadebridge. It was felt by many members that only shops around the Camel Trail would benefit from this and that for many businesses Sunday was the only day of rest!

### **WREN – Wadebridge Renewable Energy Network**

Stephen Frankel outlined the new initiative for Wadebridge called WREN, encouraging energy self-sufficiency for the area. A meeting will be held at the Town Hall on November 23<sup>rd</sup> to formally launch the programme. The initiative will help generate funds for the area, as well as being good for the environment. Interested members should visit [www.wren.uk.com](http://www.wren.uk.com) for full details.

The next meeting of the Chamber will be at the Conservative Club on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> at 5.45pm

### **[How you can get involved this month!](#)**

- [Email Darren your ideas for the Section 106 funding – how would you spend £500k improving Wadebridge?](#)
- [Get involved with the Activities Committee!](#)
- [Help organise the Folk Festival](#)
- [Come to the next meeting, have your voice heard and meet other Chamber members!](#)

## AGENDA

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