



Windermere & Bowness Chamber of Trade

Promoting the trading and commercial interests of Bowness, Windermere and the immediate area.

The minutes of a General Members Meeting held on the 1st November 2011 at the Burnside Hotel, Kendal Road, Bowness-on-Windermere, commencing at 6:30pm.

Members Present:

Tony & Liz Blaney – Fairfield Garden Guest House	Jonty Mayo - Musgraves
Eve Blatchley – Hon Member	Michael Nicholson - WTC
Barry Butler – Butler Thompson Assoc.	Richard & Dyan Rogers – Old Pump House
Simon Everett – Simon Everett Opticians	Christopher Rushton – Christopher Rushton Architects
Adrian Faulkner – AGF Business Services Ltd	Sue Tasker – Oakthorpe Hotel
Erica Hargreaves-Wood – Erica's	Nigel Wilkinson – Windermere Lake Cruises
Bill Johnson – Hon Member	

Guest(s)

Steve Ratcliffe – Chief Planner, LDNPA	Insp Spedding – Cumbria Constabulary
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Apologies:

Tony Benton – Lazy Daisy's Restaurant	PCSO Scott Livett – Cumbria Constabulary
Cllr. Ben Berry – SLDC	Robin Love – Ambleside PO
David Carter – David Carter Chemists	John Richardson – Richard's Butchers
Clayton Butchers	Penny Seeds - Manuka
Tim Farron, MP	Adam Slatter - Booths
Sue Fixter – Pitlochry	Tim Swaine – NatWest Bank
Chris Gabbott – The Coppice	Ruth & Enid Thompson – Welcome Guide
Sgt Ken Jewell – Cumbria Constabulary	Amanda Took – Mystic Moon
Paul Liddell – Lakelovers	

Simon Everett took the chair and welcomed Steve Ratcliffe from the Lake District National Park and assembled members and guests.

Steve Ratcliffe gave an update on various matters concerning the area and the Chamber of Trade. He started by stating there was a consultation process being undertaken of "Allocation of Land" making 'green field land' development affordable. This would make sufficient land, throughout the National Park, for 700 affordable housing. This would include Bowness, Windermere and Orrest Head Farm. There would also 10.25 hectares for 'new employment land' in Windermere and Troutbeck Bridge.

Regarding Bowness Bay and the glebe, Steve went onto state that the 'Core Strategy' had been at provision of the National Park. This was to enhance the visitor experience and that further work was still to be done in informing the people in the area. Steve then went onto outline the proposals for the Glebe, the green space and the lake frontage along Glebe Road. This was done with the aid of a detailed map of the area.

There then followed a long Q&A session with Steve answering a number of pertinent questions including encouraging motorists to stay, extending the spaces available at the Birthwaite Fold car park..

Simon thanked Steve for his attendance and asked that the Chamber of Trade be kept informed of any developments. Steve replied that he would make sure this happened.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th October 2011 were accepted as being a true record.

Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda:

Nothing to report

Correspondence:

Nothing to report

Reports:

a. **Police**

Inspector Spedding stated the crime was down in the area of South Lakes, however crime was up in Windermere and Bowness due to a spate of 57 instances of car damage. Shoplifting in the area was 11% down, year to date. The Police need feedback from the public whether doing a good or bad job.

Anybody with any information regarding the car damage can contact the police in confidence.

Drugs are becoming a concern and the use of dogs will be deployed in public places.

Metal crime becoming a major national concern and a recognised one within the area

b. **Membership Secretaries:**

The Secretary reported that Breeze (Joanna Ireland) had become the latest business to join the Chamber

c. **Community Safety Partnership**

No report.

d. **Windermere & Bowness Winter Lights Group:**

The Secretary reported that the Winter Lights were being put up this coming week with most of the work in Bowness.

e. **Windermere Town Twinning Association:**

The Secretary reiterated the request for help from the businesses in finding work places for students from Diessen to gain work experience. **Anyone who can offer a place should contact Jenny on 015394 44665.**

f. **Windermere Catchment Restoration Programme:**

Nothing to report

g. **Windermere Waterfront Project:**

Barry Butler handed the Secretary a precise of the "Preferred Options" as at September 2011.

h. **Tourist Information Centers:**

Nothing to report

i. **United Utilities:**

Nothing to report

j. **Business Maps/Guides for Windermere and Bowness:**

The Secretary reported that he now had the booking form and costs for the Chambers page in the "Welcome to Lakeland" guide and that he would be contacting last years' advertisers first with a view to filling 2 pages next year.

k. **Windermere Community Action Plan:**

No report.

l. **Cumbria In Bloom:**

Adrian Faulkner, in his capacity as a Management Committee Member of Cumbria In Bloom gave an update on the progress being made towards next years "Britain In Bloom" competition.

Business Improvement District (BID's):

It was reported that the various meetings and on going discussions had been made with SLDC with a view to reducing the ludicrous charges they are wanting to make for the levy collection. It was also reported the findings and comments of the 'online survey' had been forwarded to the Officers and Cabinet members of SLDC.

The Secretary reported that he had given a presentation on BID at the Central Lakes Neighbourhood Forum on the 25th October 2011.

Business In Adjoining Parishes:

No report.

Website Statistics:

The Secretary, in his capacity of webmaster of the Chambers website, informed the meeting that for the month of October 2011 there had been over 44,000 world wide "hits" on the website. This brought the total to over 451,000 world wide "hits". He also gave a brief breakdown of where the 'hits' had originated from and the types of mobile phones being used.

A.O.B.

The Secretary reported that he had attended, on behalf of the Chamber of Trade, the inaugural meeting of the "Town Market" which had been organized by Cllr Ben Berry. Cllr. Berry was to look further into this possibility.

The Secretary reported that he had attended the Central Lakes Neighbourhood Forum and found it to be interesting with Windermere Reflections and 'Love Your Lakes – Nurture Lakeland giving very informative presentations. He was asked to contact the speaker from Windermere Reflections with a view of inviting her to attend the January 2012 meeting.

Finally he reported he had been invited to attend the Cumbria Tourism Commercial Members meeting and pointed out that the Windermere and Bowness BID had been mentioned in their presentation. An interesting comment came from one of the speakers, Mark Eaton – Senior Business Manager from Barclays, when asked about loans for businesses, replied "Just Ask!"

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Dates of Future Meetings:

- 2012**
- Jan 3rd
- Feb 7th
- Mar 6th
- Apl 10th
- May 1st

Adrian G Faulkner - Secretary, Windermere & Bowness Chamber of Trade.
DMS. FCMI., CLP.