



**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 4th March 2014 at the Burnside Hotel, Kendal Road, Bowness-on-Windermere, commencing at 7pm.

Members Present:

Liz Blaney (Fairfield Guest House)	David Howarth (Renoirs)
Barry Butler (Butler Thompson Assoc)	Bill Johnson (Hon Member)
Amanda Davies (Brambles Tea Rooms)	Jonty Mayo (Musgraves)
Adrian G Faulkner (AGF Business Services Ltd)	Christopher Rushton (Lakes Architects Ltd)
Erica Hargreaves-Wood (Erica's Hair Salon)	John Saunders (WTC Rep)

Tony Blaney (Fairfield Guest House) arrived during the meeting.

Guests:

Gail Escolme (Speaker)	John Atkinson
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Apologies:

Cllr. Ben Berry (S.L.D.C.)	David Hunt (Badger Press)
Eve Blatchley (Hom Member)	Sue & Peter Jackson (Heart of the Lakes)
Sue Bloy (Lakes Accountancy)	Paul Liddell (Lakelovers)
David Carter (David Carter Chemists)	Richard Rogers (The Old Pump House)
Bob Cheetham (Crescent Chocolates)	Ian Seddon (HSBC)
Clayton Butchers	Adam Slater (Booths Supermarket)
Simon Everett (Simon Everett Opticians)	Tim Swaine (NatWest Bank)
Tim Farron (MP)	Enid & Ruth Thompson (Welcome Guide)
Mike Graham (Hackney-Leigh)	

Barry Butler, in his capacity as Chair, welcomed the members and guests to the meeting and then went onto introduce Gail Escolme who gave her annual presentation on "Employment Law – update." The [presentation slides](#) can be found by clicking on the link. Gail then took a number of questions. She was thanked by the Chair for his attendance.

Police:

The Secretary gave a report on behalf of the police. Crime in the area was down as was the anti-social behaviour.

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th February 2014 were accepted as being a true record. These were proposed by David Howarth, seconded by Amanda Davies.

Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda:

It was reported that the new shelter was no longer going under the "Porte Cochere" at the railway station.

Correspondence:

The Secretary informed the meeting of the following:

1. A letter of ['thanks'](#) from The Lakes Flying Co. Ltd for the donation to the 'Waterbird' project.

2. A letter of '[thanks](#)' from the Windermere & Bowness Winter Lights Group
3. An email from Joan Stocker regarding [Fairtrade](#) Fortnight and their forthcoming 10th Anniversary Coffee Morning to be held in May. Also asking for support in reducing the use of cheap bananas as loss leaders in shops.
4. The Secretary thanked all businesses for their help in finding suitable storage space for Windermere Local Committee of Cancer Research UK. Within 10 minutes for the email being circulated an offer had been made. Many thanks to the Lindeth Fell.

Report/comments from the Windermere Town Council Representative:

Cllr. John Saunders reported:

- that the Windermere Town Council and South Lakeland District Council (SLDC) had signed a contract for the provision of a bus stop shelter at Goodly Dale.
- The culvert at the War Memorial had been repaired and the area tidied up.
- The Windermere Town Council had agreed their 2014/15 budget. There is a slight decrease in the precept.
- The Windermere Town Council were looking to work with SLDC and the National Trust to clear the footpath leading from Millerground Car Park to the lakeshore and to improve the signaging of the area. Those present were asked "what would like to see?" Please forward you suggestions to Cllr. John Saunders at Saunders2112@aol.com

Reports:

a. **Membership Secretaries:**

Nothing to report

b. **Community Safety Partnership**

Nothing to report

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

David Howarth informed the meeting that the 'Santa Cruise and Parade had gone very well and the event on Queens Park had paid for itself. He went onto say that there an URGENT need for volunteers from both Windermere and Bowness if 2014 was to be a success. Amanda Davies was asked to represent both communities to which she agreed.

d. **Windermere Town Twinning Association:**

Nothing to report

e. **Windermere Catchment Restoration Programme:**

Nothing to report

f. **Visitor Information Centers:**

The Lakes Hospitality Association was in negotiations with SLDC for a new lease on the Windermere Visitor Information Centre.

k. **Windermere Community Action Plan:**

Nothing to report.

l. **Cumbria in Bloom/Britain in Bloom:**

Adrian Faulkner gave a brief up date on It's Your Neighbourhood entries stating that there were 8 projects being entered and one dropping out.

Vacant Positions on the Committee:

There is still a vacancy of the Vice-Chair.

Business in Adjoining Parishes:

No report.

Windermere Waterfront Project:

Nothing to report

Chamber’s Proposals for Ellerthwaite Square, Windermere

The Chairman asked the membership have a look at the ‘draft’ proposals for the area and let him have their views. The plans can be found on the website at http://www.wbcoft.org.uk/ellerthwaite_square.htm

Shop Watch Folder:

The meeting accepted the design and quotation for the Shopwatch folders. These are going to be distributed to all shops in the Bowness and Windermere area and will have:

- A letter of introduction from the Chair of the Chamber of Trade
- A Chamber of Trade application form
- A letter of introduction to the ‘Shopwatch’ scheme
- An application form
- A list of contacts, and
- A letter from the Windermere & Bowness Winter Lights Group

The Secretary was given the go ahead to place an order for 100 folders.

Report on the meeting with County Highways:

The Secretary gave a report on the meeting he had had with County Highways personnel regarding the condition of the road surfaces and pavements throughout Windermere and Bowness. He was assured that work on the more important areas would be undertaken between Easter and Whitsun 2014. Also, that a ‘gully’ vehicle was in the area clearing all the culverts on the main roads in the area. There was some discussion as to who owned the road within the Windermere Station Precinct. County Highways were to get back to the Chamber on this matter so it could be followed up.

There had been responses from the local the County, District and Town Councillors.

Resurrection of the Windermere Air Show:

Following on from the article in the Westmorland Gazette (27th February 2014), the Secretary reported that he had been interviewed on the Glebe by ITV on this subject. He hoped that he had given a balanced view of the situation. Cllr Saunders reported the neither he nor the WTC had heard from the company concerned since late 2013.

On-street Parking:

Following the article in the Westmorland Gazette (27th February 2014) those present discussed the matter. Cllr Saunders expressed his personal view which was some what at odds with that of the meeting. The members expressed concern that this idea would only add further to the cost of parking for visitors and residents. A better solution had to be found.

Website Statistics:

There were over 48K ‘world wide hits’ during the month of January 2014.

A.O.B.

It was reported that SLDC were looking to introduce “public realm” WIFI into the area. The Secretary was asked to make contact with SLDC to ascertain the details.

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Dates of Future Meetings:

- 2014
- Apl 15th
- May 6th

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