



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 October 2011 at the Burnside Hotel, Kendal Road, Bowness-on-Windermere, commencing at 6:30pm.

Members Present:

Pamela Blissland (Strolling4Shoes)	Adrian Faulkner (AGF Business Services Ltd)
Tony Blaney (Fairfield House)	Paul Frain (Helen's Chocolates)
Barry Butler (Butler Thompson Assoc.)	Bill Johnson (Hon Member)
Amanda Davies (Brambles)	Ruth Thompson (Welcome Guide)
Simon Everett (Simon Everett Opticians)	

Guest(s)

Cllr. Ben Berry	Kate Thomas (Bluestone Events)
Lucy Bennett (Bluestone Events)	Dave Thomas (Windermere Rotary)
Sqd Leader Bill Hartree (Retired)	

Apologies:

Thomas Banks (Banks Jewellers)	Erica Hargreaves-Wood (Erica's)
Tony Benton (Lazy Daisy's)	Paul Liddell (Lakelovers)
David Carter (David Carter Chemists)	PCSO Scott Livett
Clayton Butchers	Jonty Mayo (Musgraves)
Dave & Tracy Cooke (Aqua Design)	Kim Merrick & Becky Stevenson (Poppi Red)
Tim Farron MP	Richard Rogers (The Old Pump House)
Sue Fixter (Pitlochry)	Penny Seeds (Manuka)
Rob Fowler (Rob Fowler Associates)	Adam Slatter (Booths Supermarket)
Chris Gabbott (The Coppice)	Tim Swaine (NatWest Bank)
	Enid Thompson (Welcome Guides)
	Amanda Took (Mystic Moon)

Simon Everett took the chair and welcomed those assembled. He went onto introduce Bluestone Events and those associated with the Windermere Air Festival.

Bluestone Events gave a short presentation on this year's Windermere Air Festival. It was estimated that 40,000 people had attended the weekend with approximately 16,000 in the 'pay for' area. Impact on the local economy was deemed to be good. Bluestone had paid £7k for the Rotary staff in manning the car park on Rayrigg Road. Other Charities had benefited to the tune of £7k. Traders on the Glebe had given mixed feedback. Exhibitors had given good feedback and support from the local businesses had been good.

Moving forward, Bluestone had been in talks with SLDC and the Windermere Town Council and the 'pay for' area on the Glebe was to continue next year. They were looking to include a "Made In Cumbria" Market and more community based attractions next year. Bluestone had invested 180 man days on the festival and had, in their own words, "lost out". They had expended £82k overall in running the weekend. Half of these costs went into the flying display. Bill Hartree gave a breakdown of these costs.

Dave Thomas went onto say that Cumbria Tourism stated £4m went into the local economy because of the weekend and that it had been a great success and lessons had to be learnt. Bluestone costs had risen because it was no longer a charitable event. Nobody connected with the festival had spoken to those businesses that had not supported the event.

There then followed a Q&A session. The Chairman commented that the Chamber of Trade supported the Air Festival as an event but did not support the trading on the Glebe.

The event is to be held over the weekend of the 21/22 July 2012.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th September 2011 were accepted as being a true record.

Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda:

Nothing to report

Correspondence:

The Secretary reported he had received an invitation from the Royal British Legion Windermere Branch for the Chamber of Trade to lay a wreath at the Remembrance Day Parade on November 13th 2011. He asked those present to agree the purchase of the wreath together with a donation. This was unanimously agreed to. The Secretary said he was willing to attend, unless there were any other takers. It was agreed that he should represent the Chamber.

Reports:

- a. **Police**
No report.
- b. **Membership Secretaries:**
No report.
- c. **Community Safety Partnership**
No report.
- d. **Windermere & Bowness Winter Lights Group:**
No report.
- 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:**
No report.
- g. **Windermere Waterfront Project:**
Barry Butler gave a brief report on the document from the LDNPA entitled Bowness Bay and the Glebe: A location for Strategic Regeneration – Preferred Options Consultation. He asked the Secretary to write to Cumbria County Council asking if they had conducted an ‘economic impact survey’ regarding the seasonal and time-restricted road closures on the Glebe. The proposal is the removal of daytime on-street parking from Easter to late September between 10am and 6pm. **Action:** Secretary to write to CCC.
- h. **Tourist Information Centers:**
Tony Blaney reported that since the Lakes Hospitality Association (LHA) had taken over the Windermere TIC it had proved to be a success with a reduction in staffing levels making it a viable business venture. At this juncture the Chairman asked all those present to sign onto “BT Infinity” if they had not done so already to register their interest in high speed broadband.
- i. **United Utilities:**
Barry Butler reported that a planning application had been lodged for the pump station on the Glebe.
- j. **Business Maps/Guides for Windermere and Bowness:**
The Secretary reported that he had been given the details, costs and booking forms for the ‘Welcome to Lakeland Guide.’ He went on to say that the full page advert on behalf of the Chamber of Trade had been a success and that he would be going round businesses – Chamber members first – to secure advertising space with a possibility of a double page spread.
- k. **Local Development Framework:**
Barry Butler reported that the consultation document was in the public realm and could be viewed at www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/allocations Paper copies of the report is available at the Windermere Library and the Bowness Bay Information Centre. Consultation finishes on the 30th November 2011.
- l. **Windermere Community Action Plan:**
No report.

m. Cumbria In Bloom:

Adrian Faulkner, in his capacity as a Management Committee Member of Cumbria In Bloom informed the meeting that, Windermere & Bowness had been nominated for next years "Britain In Bloom" competition. He mentioned that this was a great honor for the community but there was a lot of hard work ahead.

Business Improvement District (BID's):

It was reported that the second leaflet informing the qualifying businesses had been sent out and responses had been received. A series of public consultation meeting had been and were being held at different venues throughout the LA23 post code areas. The Chair urged business owners to attend where ever possible.

Windermere Air Festival/Glebe Trading:

See summary of the presentation at the beginning of these Minutes.

Coach Dropping Off Points:

Pamela Blissland – Strolling4Shoes – outlined how this initiative had come about and thanked the Chamber of Trade for the introductions and support. She went onto say that a suitable area had been identified outside the Windermere Police Station and that she had had a site visit with the Police, County Highways, Tim Farron MP and the Secretary of the Chamber of Trade. It was now down to County Highways to draw up plans for this site.

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 September 2011 there had been over 45,000 world wide "hits" on the website. This brought the total to over 407,000 world wide "hits". He also gave a brief breakdown of were the 'hits' had originated from.

A.O.B.

The Secretary was asked to write to Cumbria County Council expressing the Chambers concerns over the lack of main road drain cleaning which resulted in flooding on many of the main thorough fares.

Cllr Ben Berry made the meeting aware of his intentions to facilitate a Christmas Market in Windermere and asked the Chamber for their support. This was given, in principle, by those present.

Barry Butler made the meeting aware of the 1st Local Residents Newsletter from windermere Lake Cruises.

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Dates of Future Meetings:

2011

Nov 1st
Dec 20th – AGM & Christmas "Get-together"

2012

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

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