



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

Members Present:

Eve Blatchley (Hon Member)	Erica Hargreaves-Wood (Erica's Hair Salon)
Barry Butler (Butler Thompson Assoc)	David Howarth (Renoirs)
Tony Blaney – Fairfield Guest House	Bill Johnson (Hon Member)
Amanda Davies (Brambles)	Christopher Rushton (Lakes Architects)
Adrian G Faulkner (AGF Business Services Ltd)	

Guests:

John Atkinson (Toys2Play)	Richard Atkinson
Cllr. John Saunders (WTC)	

Apologies:

Cllr. Ben Berry (S.L.D.C.)	David Hunt (Badger Press)
Liz Blaney (Fairfield Guest House)	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 present John Atkinson (Toys2Play) with a certificate and cheque as winner of the "Best Dressed Christmas Window" as voted by the local businesses. John commented that he would be passing the cheque onto 'Save the Children,' a charity dear to his heart. As there was only one winner, the meeting agreed that the remainder of the prize money should be donated to the "Water Bird" project.

Police:

The Secretary read out a report from Community Sergeant Bill Nolan. In it, it was reported that over the last month including Christmas there were 33 crimes reported of which 2 were for shoplifting and 2 were non dwelling burglaries. Thefts from hotels showed a slight rise but overall, Windermere and Bowness still remained a safe place to live, visit and work in.

Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th November 2013 were accepted as being a true record. These were proposed by Amanda Davies, Seconded by Tony Blaney.

Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda:

Nothing from the floor

Correspondence:

Nothing to report

Report/comments from the Windermere Town Council Representative:

Cllr. John Saunders reported that the Windermere Town Council had had a presentation from the planners regarding the development at Aquatics. The WTC were happy with the proposals.

The WTC had been approached by a company from Hull who stated that they had the go ahead to organise a 2014 Air Show by the lake. The Secretary made the meeting aware that he had the same company approach him in late 2013. Nothing had been heard since.

It had been proposed that the toilets at glebe Road Car Park may possibly be used as a small museum to celebrate the history of the "Water Bird."

Other points of interest mentioned were;

- Go-Lakes were establishing a 'hub' within the area.
- An architects 'photograph' for a bus shelter under the 'Porte Cochere' by Booths was shown. Comments were asked for and given by those assembled. These included;
 - Bad design – stepped up to enclosed area
 - Blocks pedestrian flow
 - Built round one of the pillar's holding up the Porte Cochere.
 - Appears not to have any seating
 - Being built within the confines of a 'listed building.'

Reports:

a. **Membership Secretaries:**

Nothing to report

b. **Community Safety Partnership**

Nothing to report

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

Amanda Davies gave a quick and concise update stating that there had been positive feedback on this years lights.

d. **Windermere Town Twinning Association:**

The 'Advent Event' held on December 1st was a success.

The 'Blasergruppe' would be over from the 7th June 2014 and would be playing at various locations with the Kendal Concert Band. There is a need for accommodation for 12 members of this group.

In October, a small group is planning to come over for walking and visits to places of interest, for whom the Twinning Association will be looking for B&B accommodation.

The Staveley Choir will be performing "Handel's Messiah" in association with Kendal College.

e. **Windermere Catchment Restoration Programme:**

Nothing to report

f. **Visitor Information Centers:**

There would an 'operational closure' during negotiations for a new lease.

k. **Windermere Community Action Plan:**

Nothing to report.

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

Adrian Faulkner reported on:

- The RHS's 50th Anniversary of Britain in Bloom arrangements for 2014
- The Secretary was requested to write to the WTC to ask for more substantial labeling of the flower beds which have been sponsored, especially the ones in Ellerthwaite Square and outside the NatWest Bank in Windermere.

The meeting agreed to the expenditure of £50 for the sponsorship of a hanging basket in 2013 and also to the same expenditure for 2014.

Vacant Positions on the Committee:

The Chair made the meeting aware that there were vacancies on the Committee including that of Vice-Chair.

Chamber of Trade’s focus for 2014:

The Chair outlined the proposed ‘focuses for the Chamber during 2014. These were:

- Resurrecting the notion of a ‘Drop Off’ point for coaches near the Windermere Police Station
- Development of Ellerthwaite Square to accommodate the visitor better
- The overall issue of car parking
- Better signaging to Broad Street Car Park

These were agreed to by those assembled.

Business in Adjoining Parishes:

No report.

Website Statistics:

Over 35,000 world wide ‘hits’ on the website during the month of December 2013. This gave a yearly total of over 890,000 ‘hits.’

A.O.B.

Nothing

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Dates of Future Meetings:

- 2014**
- Mar 4th**
- Apl 15th**
- May 6th**

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