

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

Present:

Tony Blaney (Fairfield Guest House)	Robin Love (Ambleside PO)
Barry Butler (Butler Thompson Assoc.)	Jonty Mayo (Musgraves)
Amanda Davies (Brambles)	Mike Nicholson (Seafarers)
Simon Everett – Chair (Simon Everett Opticians)	Richard Rogers (The Old Pump House)
Adrian G Faulkner (AGF Business Services Ltd)	Heidi Schramli (Detail)
Paul Frain (Helen's Chocolates)	Graham & Paula Smith (Lingmoor Guest House)
John Hawson	Enid & Ruth Thompson (Welcome Guides Ltd)
David Howarth (Renoirs)	Jonathan Ward (Staveley)
Leith Hallatsch (WTC)	Nigel Wilkinson (Windermere Lake Cruises)

Apologies:

Thomas Banks (Banks Jewellers)	Bill Johnson (Hon Member)
Liz Blaney (Fairfield Guest House)	Paul Liddell (Lakelovers)
Clayton Butchers	PCSO Scott Livett
Tim Farron MP	Penny Seeds (Manuka)
Rob Fowler (Rob Fowler Assoc)	Kate – Style Trading
Chris Gabbott (The Coppice)	Tim Swaine (NatWest Bank)
Erica Hargreaves-Wood (Erica's)	Richard Sykes (Booths Supermarket)
	Amanda Took (Mystic Moon)

Before the business part of the meeting, Lawrence Conway (Chief Executive – SLDC) gave an update on the current situation regarding the public conveniences within the Parish. Firstly though Mr Conway outlined the government policy on the “Big Society, Small Government” Bill which would give the resources to put into action a recovery plan which is to be driven by the private sector. This Corporate Plan has yet to go to the council's Cabinet.

- Housing - This was a huge issue both within and outside the National Park boundary.
- Environment - He thought it was wrong to waste resources.
- Culture & Arts – This was to be encouraged.
- Economic Development – Approach to a deliverable 5 year plan Priority Corporate Plan would be on SLDC's website week beginning 7th March 2011. This would include:
 - Working with the local community,
 - “One South Lakeland” – all partners will work towards the community,
 - Sustainable council working within constraints set. SLDC has to review all aspects of its processed.

Mr Conway then went onto the question of the public conveniences and pointed out that SLDC or any other Council has NO statutory obligation to maintain public conveniences. However, he pointed out that SLDC would run the 10 strategic loos and where looking to the community to run the remainder. He stated that there was a budget of £830k to cover these 10 conveniences and that the individual costings are on a spreadsheet on SLDC's website. At this stage numerous questions were asked of Mr Conway. He was at great pains to point out that SLDC were not out to make money from the toilets and that the Council would be refurbishing the 10 strategic toilets and then handing over to community enterprises, but this could not be done before April 2011. Disable facilities would be in the 3 strategic toilets in Bowness and Windermere. SLDC had been trying to negotiate with the Windermere Town Council (WTC) and the Windermere Community Care Trust (WCCT) over the running of these 3 toilets and concerns were expressed as to the recent joint press release from WTC and WCCT stating “they had reluctantly pulled out.....” and the public possibly using the open spaces as loos. Mr Conway pointed out that SLDC would borrow the money for the refurbishments.

Mr Conway was thanked for his attendance. Mr Leith Hallatsch (WTC) made a number of observations regarding the Town Council's stance and stated that they would "not walk away from the project."

Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th January 2011 were accepted as being a true record.

Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda:

Nothing to report.

Correspondence:

- The Secretary read out an email he had received from Victoria Lepper (Capita) in connection with the lack of road signing at the bottom of Crag Brow. This stated that "work tickets" had been issued with a delivery timescale of 6 – 8 weeks.
- In response to a question asked at the last meeting regarding the "Windermere Reflections" program, the Secretary handed out extracts from the National Parks' website regarding this matter.

Reports:

- Police**
No Report.
- Membership Secretaries:**
No report.
- Community Safety Partnership**
In the absence of Bill Johnson, the Secretary read out his report which can now be found on the website under "Minutes."
- Windermere & Bowness Winter Lights Group:**
No report.
- Windermere Town Twinning Association:**
The Secretary reported that he had received a communication from Jenny Borer (Chair) which had been put onto the website under the heading [Diessen am Ammersee -Windermere's Twinned Town](#)
- Windermere Catchment Restoration Programme:**
No report.
- Windermere Waterfront Project:**
In the absence of Barry Butler, the Secretary had attended the meeting of the above on the 25th January 2011. His report is on the website - http://www.wbcoft.org.uk/working_with_the_national_park.htm
- Windermere Air Show/Glebe Trading:**
Tony Blaney reported the following:

The Bluestone 'contract' with Rotary is that Rotary will have a 3 year 'preferred charity' status during which they can rattle buckets on the Glebe, and will have preferential listings in the programme. Rotary will have a 5 year profit split with Bluestone though amount was unspecified. Rotary will continue to provide volunteers during this period, and will manage the car park in exchange for a 50/50 split of the parking revenue. Throughout this period and ongoing Bluestone have committed to continue the 'charity marquee' where any charity can pay a small fee for a table to sell items.

The main Glebe area will continue to be used for free static exhibits like the RAF recruiting attraction, but otherwise apart from Taylors fair the Glebe will be kept clear as the viewing area for the show. (IE all the attractions, events, and concessions provided by Bluestone will be inside the paid area!). Charges will come down in 2011 and will be: Adults £5, children £2.50, family £13 including programme, 3 adults £15 including programme. All food concession and other stalls will be inside the paid area. Preferential rates will be given to local companies for stands, (£350 instead of £450). There will also be a large refreshments marquee inside the paid area offering tea/coffee/ sandwiches etc.

Format will be 8 displays a day; the red arrows have been requested but will not be confirmed until 3 weeks before the show. £30k has been set aside for display fees. They estimate 30,000 visitors generating 2.9 million for the local economy. (Quick maths would suggest an average of £100+ for every man, woman and child, it sounds a bit high to me!)

New website (windermereairdisplay.com) is up and taking advertising. They are proposing £150 for an accommodation listing, £400 for a banner or £200 with programme advert. Programme adverts are from £50 to £500 for a full page, and £650 for the back page.

- i. **On Street Car Parking Charges:**
It was reported that the County Council would not be instigating the scheme...
- j. **Tourist Information Centers:**
It was reported that the Lakes Hospitality Association were now the owners of the Windermere TIC. They take over on April 1st 2011.
- k. **United Utilities Storage Tank – The Glebe:**
No response from United Utilities.
- l. **Business Maps/Guides for Windermere and Bowness:**
There were going to be improvements to the 2011 map.
- m. **Local Development Framework:**
No report.
- n. **Windermere Community Action Plan:**
No report.
- o. **Cumbria In Bloom:**
Adrian Faulkner, in his capacity as an Executive Committee Member of Cumbria In Bloom informed the meeting that, the Windermere In Bloom committee had ordered an extra 10 flower baskets for the Chamber of Trade members to sponsor at a cost of £40 per basket to include flowers and sponsorship label. Anybody interested should contact Cllr. Lisa Greasley, Chair of Windermere In Bloom on 015394 44465.
- p. **Street Signs:**
It was reported that the Town Council were supportive of the Fair Trade group putting up road signs to the effect that Windermere & Bowness were a “Fair Trade Town.”

Business Improvement District (BID's):

Paul Frain reported on the visit by the BID's sub-committee to Skipton. He said it was a very worthwhile exercise and a lot had been learnt from the Skipton group. It was proposed and agreed to, that the sub-committee should meet with Keswick and also Alison Love from Fells and Dales.

Business in Adjoining Parishes:

No report.

Website Statistics:

The Secretary, in his capacity of webmaster of the Chambers website, informed the meeting that as the meeting was on the 1st of the month web statistics for January 2011 were not available from the hosting company. The Secretary was asked if he could seek out information on the “Windermere Reflections” program.

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Dates of Future Meetings:

2011

- Mar – 1st
- Apl – 12th
- May – 3rd

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