

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

Present:

Tony Blaney (Fairfield Guest House)	Bill Johnson (Hon Member)
Eve Blatchley (Hon Member)	Robin Love (Ambleside Post Office)
Simon Everett (Simon Everett Opticians)	Jonty Mayo (Musgraves Ltd)
Adrian Faulkner (AGF Business Services Ltd)	Mike Nicholson (Seafarers)
Paul Frain (Helen's Chocolates)	Richard & Dyan Rogers (The Old Pump House)
Chris Gabbott (The Coppice)	Christopher Rushton (Lakes Architects)
Erica Hargreaves-Wood (Erica's)	

Guests

David Black (Wicks Group)	Giles Norwood (W'mere Hotel)
Ross Nicholson (Newstead)	Steve Ratcliffe (LDNPA)

Apologies:

Thomas Banks (Banks Jewellers)	David Howarth (Renoirs)
Liz Blaney (Fairfield Guest House)	Paul Liddell (Lakelovers)
Barry Butler (Butler Thompson Assoc)	PCSO Scott Livett
David Carter (David Carter Chemists)	Penny Seeds (Manuka)
Clayton Butchers	Paula & Graham Smith (Lingmoor Guest House)
Tim Farron MP	Tim Swaine (NatWest Bank)
Rob Fowler (Rob Fowler Assoc)	Richard Sykes (Booths Supermarket)
Sue Fixter (Pitlochry)	Enid & Ruth Thompson (Welcome Guides)
Leith Hallatsch (WTC)	Amanda Took (Mystic Moon)

Before the business part of the meeting, Simon Everett introduced Steve Ratcliffe from the Lake District National Park. Steve went onto introduce the elements of the Core Strategy which were essentially 7 restoration sites around the lake. The April Planning Committee would be considering applications from;

- Low Wood Hotel,
- Brockhole – New jetty, high rope project and a water centre,

Also the following are under consideration:

- Steamboat Museum – new Heritage Lottery Funding bid had been applied for.
- NT had been granted approval for Wray Castle Hotel

Steve then went onto outline the proposals for Bowness Bay and the Glebe by saying “nothing was certain yet.” He wanted to see redevelopment of certain parts of the area and that there would be no development of the “green” glebe. Will only redevelop if the landowners see “added value.” Steve went on to say that there was “no significant size in the proposed hotel.” This area needs to compliment the town centre.

There then followed a lengthy Q&A session.

Steve was thanked by Simon Everett for his honest approach to the presentation.

There then followed a presentation by the 2 directors of Bluestone Events outlining the proposals for the 2011 Windermere Air Festival. They outlined the cost of the various attractions:

- Programme - £5
- Air Base – Adult £5, Children £2.50, Family Ticket £14 (2 adults, 2 children + programme)

The flight line for the air displays was now back to the one of 2009.

Simon Everett thanked them for their time.

#### Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2011 with the addition of Lawrence Conway as being present 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.
- The Secretary read out an article from the North-West Evening Mail in which he had been asked to comment on SLDC's latest figures on empty shops which 'bucked' the national trend. This article can be found on the website <http://www.wbcoft.org.uk/news.htm>

#### Reports:

- a. Police**  
No Report.
- b. Membership Secretaries:**  
The Secretary reported that David Carter Chemists of Windermere and Robin Love of Ambleside Post Office had become the Chamber's latest members.
- c. Community Safety Partnership**  
No report.
- d. Windermere & Bowness Winter Lights Group:**  
No report.
- e. Windermere Town Twinning Association:**  
The Secretary reported that he had received from Jenny Borer (Chair) her February Newsletter. This is to be put onto the website under the heading [Diessen am Ammersee -Windermere's Twinned Town](#)
- f. Windermere Catchment Restoration Programme:**  
No report.
- g. Windermere Waterfront Project:**  
No report.
- h. Windermere Air Festival/Glebe Trading:**  
See above presentation report by Bluestone Events.
- i. On Street Car Parking Charges:**  
No report.
- j. Tourist Information Centers:**  
Tony Blaney reported that the Lakes Hospitality Association were due to open the Windermere TIC on the 31<sup>st</sup> March but there is delay due to the contract with SLDC.
- k. United Utilities Storage Tank – The Glebe:**  
No response from United Utilities – again!
- 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 Town Council's 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,

watering and sponsorship label. Anybody interested should contact Cllr. Lisa Greasley, Chair of Windermere In Bloom on 015394 44465.

- p. **Street Signs:**  
No report.

Business Improvement District (BID's):

In the absence of Barry Butler, the Secretary read out a report on the meeting between the Chamber's BID's Sub-Committee and the Keswick BID's Committee. This report can be found on the Chambers website at <http://www.wbcoft.org.uk/BID.htm>

Business in Adjoining Parishes:

No report.

Website Statistics:

The Secretary, in his capacity of webmaster of the Chambers website, informed the meeting that for January and February there had been over 104,400 worldwide "hits" on the website. The USA accounted for over 6,000 and China 3,000. There remainder had come from the UK and Europe.

A.O.B.

Tony Blaney told the meeting that he had written to the Westmorland Gazette regarding SLDC's decision to out source their commercial waste collection and the substantial increase in the charges this had brought about. He pointed out the he was looking at 2 other companies for waste collection. David Black (Wicks Group) stated he had come along to the meeting after hearing the Chamber where discussing this vexed matter on the Bay Radio. He pointed out that he represented a waste collection company and gave a resume of the type of undertaking Wicks provided. He also offered to investigate a cheaper rate, where possible, and discuss any waste collection concerns with members. Other members and non-members expressed their concerns over the move by SLDC.

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Dates of Future Meetings:

- 2011**
- Apl – 12<sup>th</sup>
- May – 3<sup>rd</sup>

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