



Windermere & Bowness Chamber of Trade

The minutes of a General Members Meeting held on the 3rd November 2009 at the Burnside Hotel, Kendal Road, Bowness-on-Windermere, commencing at 6:30pm.

Present:

Barry Butler (Butler Thompson Assoc)	Bill Johnson (Hon Member)
Carol Bullock (Edinburgh Woollen Mill)	Jonty Mayo (Musgraves of Windermere)
Simon Everett (Simon Everett Opticians)	Richard Rogers (The Old Pump House)
Adrian G Faulkner (AGF Business Services Ltd)	Christopher Rushton (Lakes Architects)
David Howarth (Renoirs)	

Guests:

Cue Bloy (Lakes Accountancy)	PSCO Scott Livett
Dr. RM & Dr CS Griffin (Griffin InfoSoc Ltd)	Adam Thomas (LDNPA)

Apologies:

Tony & Liz Blaney (Fairfield Guest House)	Paul Liddell (Lakelovers)
Claytons Butchers	Steve Marston (The Cook House)
Tim Farron MP	Mike Roberts (Millbeck)
Robert Fowler (Robert Fowler & Assoc)	Penny Seeds (Manuka)
Jo Harris (Windermere Wines)	Bill Smith (SLDT)

Opening Remarks:

Barry Butler (Chair) welcomed the assembled members and guests and introduced Adam Thomas from the Lake District National Park Authority.

Adam Thomas' Presentation on the future of Brockhole:

Adam introduced himself and outlined his remit regarding the development of Brockhole and his key role as the Project Leader. Adam pointed out that Brockhole cost an 'awful' lot to maintain with a breakeven of £350k. The exhibition in the house was not valued and although the garden was listed the building was not. Visitor numbers had halved over the years while being the 8th most visited attraction in the Lakes.

Adam then went onto outline the future plans for the building and grounds;

- A new centre with better lake front access,
- Incorporate a 7,000 square foot café,
- 7,000 square feet of retail outlets,
- Information and interpretive centre,
- New playground,
- A taster area for Adventure Sports,
- Restore the Grade II listed garden (Thomas Mawson),
- Change the existing café into a restaurant with the rest of the house being office space targeted at local businesses,
- Increase the length of jetties and their number,
- A roundabout at the entrance for shared access with adjoining properties.

There had been a successful bid of £5.53m, still waiting for £4.4m from the Heritage Lottery. It is hoped that the jetties would be in place before June 2010.

Adam then took a number of questions from those assembled. Barry then thanked Adam on behalf of the Chamber for his attendance.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th October 2009 were accepted as being a true record.

Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda:

There were no matters under this heading.

Correspondence:

The Secretary read out to assembled members the following correspondence:

1. An email from Joanna Smyth regarding the initiative being undertaken by a number of shops in Bowness of 'Late Night Opening' on the 3rd and 10th December.
2. A letter of 'thanks' from the Windermere & Bowness Winter Lights group for the Chambers donation.
3. An email from a member expressing concern over the BiDs project.
4. An email from a member expressing concern over the number of Charity Shops coming into the area and the effect on the local areas reputation.

Reports:

1. **Police**

PCSO Scott Livett gave the meeting an update on what the Community Policing Team had been doing since the last meeting. He also brought to the meetings attention the 'Crime Mapper' news sheets that are being uploaded on the Chambers website.

2. **Membership Secretaries**

Nothing to report.

3. **Community Safety Partnership**

Bill Johnson reported on the following;

- MUGA – the public consultation had an inconclusive outcome so more work was needed. £p from South Lakes Housing recharge available. Need to reconsult.
- Broad Street CCTV on car park – a meeting was held on the 13th November 2009 to see if CCTV cameras could feed into the Library CCTV system which has the capacity for 4 cameras.
- Barwatch – SLDC and police are trying to restart the scheme on a more 'inclusive' set up linking all the pubs in SLDC area. The cost would be £25 per year inclusive of radio and 'banned' information from across the area. PCSO Sarah Blacow would be writing to all publicans in Windermere and Bowness. There had been success in Ambleside with the 'sniffer dog' and the police are keen to repeat the operation.
- Youth – a lot of good work was being done by PCSO Sarah Blacow at various youth gatherings ie youth discos, youth clubs etc.

Windermere Waterfront Project

Barry Butler reported that he had no replies from various letters he had written to United Utilities Ltd.

The Glebe

The Secretary read out an email he had received from Dave Thomas (Rotary Club of Windermere) regarding a meeting Dave was organizing to discuss the 2010 Airshow and the possibility of the sale of food on the Glebe.

Website Statistics:

The Secretary, in his capacity of webmaster of the Chambers website, informed the meeting that for the month of October there had been over 56,000 'hits' on the site with 28,000 coming from the UK. 12,800 had come from the USA with Virginia, California, Washington and Oklahoma being the leading states. Europe accounted for over 6,000 'hits' and the rest came from South Africa, Ivory Coast, Swaziland, China, Hong Kong, Japan, UAE, Taiwan and Korea. He pointed out that Google was by far the most used search engine and that the most used search phrase was Windermere Chamber of Trade.

Financial Statements:

The Treasurer handed out to the meeting a copy of the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 30th September 2009 which was accepted. He pointed out that this would be presented at the forthcoming AGM for formal acceptance.

AOB:

- Barry Butler made the meeting aware that the Federation of Small Business was holding a meeting at the Hydro Hotel on the 9th November at 7:30pm with the topic being SLDC and Tourism.
- It was reported that the AGM of the Windermere Town Twinning Association was imminent.

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Dates of Future Meetings:

2010

- 5th Jan
- 2nd Feb
- 2nd Mar
- 6th Apl
- 4th May

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