



Windermere & Bowness Chamber of Trade

The minutes of a General Members Meeting held on the 7th April 2009 at the Burnside Hotel, Kendal Road, Bowness-on-Windermere, commencing at 6:30pm.

Present:

Eve Blatchley	Hon Member	Adrian Faulkner (Sec)	AGF Business Services
Tony & Liz Blaney	Fairfield Guest House	Rob Fowler	Rob Fowler & Associates
C Bullock		D & G Howarth	Renoirs
Barry Butler (Chair)	Butler Thompson Assoc	I & P Plumb	Plumbtrees
N Chazaud		C Rushton	Lakes Architects
Simon Everett	Simon Everett Opticians		

Guest Speaker:

Kieron McGlasson BDP

Apologies:

Naomi Darbishire	W McClures Ltd	Steve Marston	The Cook House
Anthony Dean	Threshers	Mike Nicholson	Seafarers
Tim Farron, MP		Mike Roberts	Millbeck
Richard Freeman	Freemans	Penny Seeds	Manuka
Jo Harris	Windermere Wine Stores	Bill Johnson	Hon Member
Paul Liddell	Lakelovers	Nigel Wilkinson	Windermere Lake Cruises
CSO Scott Livett			

Opening Remarks:

Barry Butler (Chair) welcomed the assembled members and introduced Kieron McGlasson, newly appointed consultant for the Bowness Bay and The Glebe Project.

Kieron McGlasson – BDP, Bowness Bay and The Glebe Presentation

Kieron commenced his presentation by stating that he came with a 'clean sheet of paper' and outlined his remit which was to look at:

- Improved traffic management,
- Improved public access to the Lake shore,
- Strengthening the Glebe as a public space, and
- Addressing the 'tired' look of the physical structures around the Glebe.

Timetable:

1. Inception,
2. Evidence base and Strategic Appraisal,
3. Options – by 21st May 2009,
4. Final "Master Plan Report."

Thoughts/suggestion from the membership were:

- Cockshot Point access needs better signaging.
- Very difficult to get to the lake access.
- Removal of bird faeces from the Promenade.
- Not to 'sweep' everything away. There is still character in what we have.
- Clean up the fascias of the buildings on lakeshore.
- Do not get rid of the car parking on Glebe Road.
- Car parking to be a priority before anything else is done.
- Open Braithwaite Fold Car Park 52 weeks of the year.

- Study not long enough to grasp what the sight has to offer.
- Visitors to have an ‘interesting’ experience whilst on the Glebe.

At the end of the presentation, Kieron was thanked by the Chairman for his attendance and hoped that the suggestions would be taken on board.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd March 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 reported that he had received a letter from Tim Farron MP together with a letter from the Department for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform regarding what the Government are doing to help small business. (Secretary’s note: these letters can be found on the Chambers website under, **News** – Government Help for Small Businesses.)

The Secretary also read out a letter received from Steve Ratcliffe, Director of Planning and Partnerships, LDNPA regarding the Bowness Bay and The Glebe Master Plan. (Secretary’s note: this letter can be found on the Chambers website under, **Working with the National Park**.)

Reports:

1. **Business Improvement District (BID) – Steve Marston**

In the absence of Steve Marston, Tony Blaney updated the meeting on the progress being made. He stated that not a lot of interest had been shown at the LHA Show even though there was a manned stand. He did add however, that there was interest from those commenting.

SLDC had gone a long way to finding funding for a survey.

His final comments to those present was to “Get the idea out” into the community.

2. **Membership Secretaries**

Eve Blatchley reported that she had been in touch with ‘Fat Olives’ and the ‘Toy Chest’ with a view to them becoming members.

3. **Police**

Nothing to report.

4. **Eco-Friendly**

It was noted that this initiative had been mentioned at a recent Neighbourhood Forum meeting and that the LDNPA were looking at sights for hydroelectric power.

Windermere Community Plan.

The Secretary reported that this document was now on the Chamber of Trades website.

AOB:

The Treasurer produced a half yearly set of accounts for consideration. These showed that the Chamber was in a healthy financial position. He did point out to those assembled that if the Chamber were to continue with the level of grants as in the past then there needed to a concerted effort by all to attract further members.

The Secretary read out extracts of the **Town Councils minutes** which included:

- The Mayor’s meeting with SLDC regarding a request by Kendal Arts International for the provision of 2 catering units. SLDC had requested that KAI consult with local traders.
- Cumbria In Bloom – In principle, the Town Council were happy to consider the provision of permanent signs relating to its involvement with the Cumbria In Bloom competition.
- Public Conveniences – costings had now been received from the District Council and further consideration was given as regards the possible re-opening of Glebe Road toilets. Bearing in mind that the proposed United Utilities works would seriously affect access to these toilets over the next eighteen months, it was agreed to continue to explore alternative ways of re-opening these in the future. In the interim, Bowness Bay toilets should be kept in as good a condition as possible and there should be improved signage for the Braithwaite Fold Public Conveniences.

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Dates of Future Meetings:

2009

TBA

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