

The minutes of a General Members Meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 at the Burnside Hotel, Bowness-on-Windermere, commencing at 6:30pm.

**Present:**

Eve Blatchley	Hon. Member	Simon Everett	Simon Everett Opticians
Barry Butler (Chair)	Butler Thompson Associates	Joanne Harris	Windermere Wine Stores
David Cartwright	Brambles Tea Room	Bill Johnson	Hon. Member
Naomi Darbishire	W McClures Ltd	Steve Marston	Cook House
		Dave Howarth	Renoirs

**Guest Speaker:**

Gail Escolme	Hayton Winkley
Alison Hind	Hayton Winkley

**Apologies:**

Liz & Ton Blaney	Fairfield Garden Guest House	Joanne Ireland	The Hen House
Anthony Dean	Threshers	Mike Nicholson	Seafarers
Tim Farron MP		Penny Seeds	Manucha
Adrian Faulkner	AGF Bus Ser Ltd	Cllr. Joan Stocker	WPC Representative
Richard Freeman	Freemans	Sharon Wright	Claytons

**Opening Remarks:**

Barry Butler (Chair) welcomed Gail Escolme (as guest speaker) and Alison Hind from Hayton & Winkley together with all those present. Barry also welcomed David Cartwright of Brambles Tea Room in Windermere.

**Gail Escolme – Employment Law Practitioner**

Gail covered four main areas:

- National Minimum Wage
- Immigrant Workers
- Maternity leave
- Annual leave

In the question & answer session Gail commented that the relevant Government Departments were checking up on employers' compliance with current legislation, adding there had recently been an Inspector in the area checking records of employment for immigrant workers. Gail also commented on a new requirement concerning Vicarious Harassment in the Workplace – by a customer towards sales or serving staff and the duty of the employer to duly advertise that this is inexcusable and could lead to prosecution.

The Chairman thanked Gail for an interesting and relevant presentation and Gail offered to send details of the presentation to the Secretary to put on the website for members who had not received the handout.

**Minutes:**

In view of the time, the Chairman proposed the Minutes of the March meeting and matters Arising be taken at the May meeting and selected items were taken from the Agenda

**Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda:**

See above.

Town Twinning Association – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations:

- a) Eve Blatchley said all were welcome to attend the Twinning Association's AGM was on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and full details of the visit by Diessen would be given then.
- b) The Steamer evening was on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and would cost ca£15 per head.
- c) On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> there would be an evening at the Lake District Boat Club and it was expected this could be limited to 110. Eve said the proposed catering was for a Cumbrian Sausage Supper – this was an event Chamber had offered to support it was proposed by Simon Everett, seconded by Bill Johnson that "The Chamber underwrite this event by up to £300.00". **Agreed.**
- d) As 3 vintage steam boats were planning to go to Diessen's English Week in the Autumn. Eve said some steam boat owners were hoping to provide trips on Windermere when the Diessen party were in the UK.

Crescent Road Works:

- a) Barry was proposing to write to Paul Holdsworth, Ian Goss and Joan Stocker concerning water accumulation at the pavement junction of Bank Street and Beech Street. It was suggested Nick Raymond be added to that list. Also comments that water accumulation was occurring at other pavement junctions.
- b) Car parking in Broad Street was 'free' until the end of April – but it was understood this was for a period of upto 2 hours and anyone parking longer without a ticket would be fined. A leaflet to this effect was being put on windscreens

Any Other Business:

Ambleside Chamber of Trade – it was noted that this group had folded; though there was hope that a new group for businesses might be started – possibly with input from Paul Holdsworth of SLDT in his capacity as Town Manager.

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Dates of Future Meetings:

**2008**

6<sup>th</sup> May – General Members Meeting

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