



Windermere & Bowness Chamber of Trade

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

Present:

Eve Blatchley	Honorary Member	Steve Marston	The Cook House
Barry Butler (Chair).	Butler Thompson Assoc.	Mike Roberts	Millbeck
Adrian Faulkner (Sec)	AGF Business Services	Penny Seeds	Manuka
Jo Harris	Windermere Wine Store	Stuart Tweedale	Stuart Sports
Bill Johnson	Honorary Member		

Guests:

PCSO Scott Livett	Police	Steve Ratcliffe	L.D.N.P.A.
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Apologies:

Liz & Tony Blaney	The Fairfield Guest House	Tim Farron MP	
Dave Cook	Aqua Graphic	Steve Holcroft	Steve Holcroft Photography
Naomi Darbishire	W McClures Ltd	David Howarth	Renoirs
Simon Everett	Simon Everett Opticians	Paul Liddell	Lakelovers

Opening Remarks:

Barry Butler (Chair) welcomed the assembled members and introduced Gary Mortimer from CREA and also pointed out that later on in the meeting Steve Ratcliffe from the LDNPA would also be attending...

Gary Mortimer – Presentation:

Gary started by introducing himself and then went onto outline the function of CREA and the CBEN Award scheme. This he did with the aid of the slide presentation to be found on the *Minutes* page of the Chamber of Trade website.

He went onto say that CREA offer a *FREE* business health check which would help to identify cost savings along with Environmental Management Systems (EMS), ISO 140001 for the large businesses. Smaller businesses could get a condensed version.

Gary pointed out that there were savings to be made through Enhanced Capital Allowances and suggested that businesses should speak to their accountants on this subject.

He then went onto outline the criteria for the CBEN award – these can also be found on the slide presentation.

Finally, Gary answered a number of questions from those present.

The Chairman thanked Gary for a very informative presentation and the answers give.

The Chairman then introduced Steve Ratcliffe (Director of Planning & Partnerships, LDNPA) who gave a presentation on the Bowness Bay Project.

Steve Ratcliffe – Presentation:

Steve started off by outlining the new vision the LDNPA had for the National Park as a whole including establishing a new Planning framework. He then concentrated on the project as it applied to the whole of Lake Windermere by stating that it would be at least a 10 year programme regenerating the area around the lake.

The areas to be covered by the project are:

1. Waterhead which is to be led by South Lakeland District Council,
2. Low Wood – conference centre facilities,
3. Brockhole – to realise the potential of the facility,
4. Windermere Steam boat Museum,
5. Bowness Bay and the Glebe,
6. Lakeside and Fellfoot – new destination and entrance to the area,
7. Lakeland Motor Museum at Haverthwaite.

He also indicated that there was room for expanding the current water bus service.

Steve went on to outline the procedures for the Bowness Bay and Glebe part of the project by stating there would be a feasibility study undertaken to look at the future of the area. By the end of June/July 2009 he expected there to be a Master Plan with community engagement in finalising this. The area to be covered would start at the ferry terminal and finish at Cockshott Point, then taking in Braithwaite Fold car park, the cemetery and finally the coach park. The two extremes of the project could be “no change” to “major change” the extreme of which **MAY** go to the demolition of **all** lakeside properties and closure of the Glebe to traffic. All of which is the “melting pot” for discussion and listening to aspirations. This will be a 5/10 year programme if and when it gets the “go ahead.”

Q&A:

Q. What is the Master Plan?

A. To come up with a range of options from the community. The LDNPA will then come up with a pre-determined option. Steve imagined there would be a ‘public’ examination with a final decision being made in 2010.

The Chair thanked Steve for his attendance and thought provoking presentation and asked that the Chamber of Trade be kept up to date of developments. This Steve agreed to do.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th 6th January 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 the Windermere Town Council in reply to one he had written on the Chamber’s behalf in connection with the Council’s concern over the “appearance of commercial properties.

Reports:

1. **Business Improvement District – Steve Marston**

Steve Marston updated the meeting on the initial progress made and stated that it was worthwhile going down this route to attract funding to Windermere and Bowness. He went on to say that there should be answers from SLDC regarding the collection of the levy. Steve would up date the membership more fully at the next meeting.

2. **Cumbria In Bloom**

In view of the time it was agreed to bring this item to the next meeting.

3. **Membership Secretaries**

Nothing to report.

4. **Police**

PCSO Scott Livett reported on the updated, soon to be operational, Shop Watch radio scheme. He hoped there may be further information for the next meeting.

5. **Eco-Friendly**

It was reported that the cost of collecting business waste maybe going up by as much as 25%. It was commented that there was a conflict as to when to put out the waste bins and suggested that there should be an agreement with the District Council as to when that should be.

New Pages for the Website:

The views of those present were sought as to the feasibility of the Chamber of Trade’s website having a “Job Vacancy” page for use by its members. It was suggested that there should be a *one off* charge of £5.00 for each vacancy, the money going to the Chambers funds. This was **agreed** to by those present and the Secretary was requested to make this known to all members by email.

WOW 2009

It was reported to the meeting that this event would not be taking the format of previous years.

A.O.B:

The Chair stated he would write to the Clerk to the Town Council requesting a copy of the Community Plan.

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Dates of Future Meetings:

2009

April 7th

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