

The minutes of a General Members Meeting held on the 3rd June 2008 at the Burnside Hotel, Bowness-on-Windermere, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present:

Tony Blaney Fairfield Guest House Steve Holcroft Steve Holcroft Photography

Eve Blatchley Hon. Member Dave & Gill Howarth Renoirs

Barry Butler (Chair) Butler Thompson Assoc Ian Plumb Threshers - Bowness

Adrian Faulkner AGF Business Services Ltd

Apologies:

Liz Blaney Fairfield Garden Guest House Tim Farron MP

Naomi Darbishire W McClures Ltd Jo Harris Windermere Wine Stores Ltd

Anthony Dean Threshers Bill & Chris Johnson

Simon Everett Simon Everett Opticians Penny Seeds Manucha

Opening Remarks:

Barry Butler (Chair) welcomed the assembled members.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting on the 6th May 2008 were accepted as being correct.

Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda:

The Secretary was requested to contact PC Kevin Robson with a view to setting up a 'Retailers Snowball Scheme" at the top end of Bowness.

Correspondence:

The Secretary read out the following correspondence that was not available on the website;

a) A letter from the LDNPA notifying the Chamber of Trade of the consultation on the Local Development Framework (Core Strategies). The Secretary pointed out that there was a link on the Chamber's website to this document and the Response form. He also pointed out that all response should reach the LDNPA by the 11th July 2008.

Final Thoughts on Crescent Road.

It was unanimously agreed by those present that the Secretary should write to both United Utilities and the Cumbria County Council requesting, under the "Freedom of Information Act 2000" for sight of the 'Letter(s) of Engagement.' It was also agreed that the Secretary should write to Cumbria County Council asking why they had paid for the work before it was started.

On receiving such replies the Chamber would try and seek compensation for those businesses in Windermere affected by the "shambolic" delay.

The Secretary was asked to contact Paul Holdsworth (Town Centers Manager) regarding the findings of the 'Parking Needs Survey.'

It was thought necessary that the traffic flow in Beech Street, Windermere be reversed.

10th Anniversary of the town Twinning Association:

Eve Blatchley thanked all those who had made this a resounding success. There is a full report and pictures on the Chambers website. The Secretary read out an email he had received from a member who had attended the brass concert and sausage supper and commented on the lack of support.

Eve then went onto to inform the meeting that Form 8 from the Lakes School where going to Diessen in July.

Troutbeck Beck Bridge Swimming Pool.

Barry Butler reported that he, along with 6 other businesses had attended a meeting at the Sun Inn, Troutbeck Bridge regarding the future of the swimming pool. It was reported the new consortium where looking to repair the existing pool with a view to re-build it in the future. There was a plea for manual labour and voluntary work.

Windermere In Bloom

It was reported that the judging for this would take place on the 24th and 25th July.

Ellerthwaite Square, Victoria Road and Main Road.

It was agreed by those present to send out a questionnaire to the membership asking for their views on how these areas should be addressed/improved.

Any Other Business:

The Chamber of Trade had been offered the use of a boat for the Lions Festival Boat Parade on the 9th August. A theme was suggested which was taking the Chambers' byline "The Strength of the Chamber – Is your strength! We are still looking for 2/3 crew members and ideas on decoration.

After much discussion it was felt that the current Town Council representative had a conflict of interest with their other commitments and the Chamber. It unanimously decided by those present, that the Secretary should write to the Clerk to the Town Council asking the Council to re-consider the appointment.

The Secretary produced to the meeting the Financial Statements to the 31st May 2008. These showed the Chamber to be in healthy financial position.

Dates of Future Meetings:

2008

September 9th @ 6:30pm

October 7th - Guest Speaker: Mike Clark, Director of the Lake District World Heritage Project

November 4th

December 9th - AGM & Christmas "Get Together"

2009

January 6th

February 3rd

March 3rd

April 7th

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