

Notes of a general Members Meeting held on 5th January 2016 at the Burnside Hotel, Kendal Road, Bowness on Windermere commencing at 6pm.

A number of members were present.

Apologies

Liz Blaney (Fairfield Guest House) Eve Blatchley (Hon. Member) David Carter (David Carter Chemists) Clayton Butchers Tim Farron (MP) Simon Everett (Past Chair) Sue & Peter Jackson (Heart of the Lakes) Caroline & Jonathon Kaye (Cedar Manor) La Galerie D'art (Jill Crisp & Mr. Tonnet) Paul Liddell (Lakelovers) Ian Seddon (HSBC) Adam Slater (Booths Supermarket) Tim Swaine (NatWest Bank) Penny Seeds (Retired from Manuka) C Tupper (Manuka)

Barry Butler took the chair and welcomed the assembled members and guests.

Cllr. Leith Hallatsch – Mayor of Windermere, made the presentation for the 'Best Dressed Christmas Window – Bowness' to the owners of 'Espeshelley4You.' The winner in Windermere has yet to be contacted as they have been closed over the festive season.

Police

Nothing to report.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 3rd November 2015 were approved as being correct.

Correspondence

The Secretary reported that he had received copies of;

- 1. Windermere & Bowness-on-Windermere Local Economy: Scoping the Way Ahead (Final Report). The Secretary pointed out that there was some inappropriate wording in this report and he had requested their removal.
- 2. Windermere Economic Profile September 2015
- 3. The Chamber of trade's own 'Report on the Impact "Storm Desmond" has had on Windermere and Bowness.'

These reports are going to be made available on the Chamber's website.

Reports

No reports received from the Chamber's representatives.

Cllr. Leith Hallatsch gave an update on the concerns the Windermere Town Council are experiencing with Planning Issues. There has been no resolution regarding the tenure at Langstone House. Other items of interest including the floral displays on behalf of Windermere in Bloom and also it's 'new look.' It was noted that Windermere would not be taking part in this years Cumbria in Bloom campaign as a community.

The Secretary asked that the Chamber's grateful "Thanks" be passed onto the Council for the donation of the 2 cups for the Best Dressed Christmas Window competition.



Economic Activity in Windermere, Bowness, Ambleside and Grasmere

The Secretary gave a report on the meeting he attended on behalf of the Chamber regarding the best way to revive the economy within the area in the aftermath of 'Storm Desmond.' The major problem of concern was the length of time it was taking to open the A591 north of Grasmere and the impact this delay was having on tourism. The Secretary suggested that SLDC should offer '*free*' car parking for a period of time. This was not met enthusiastically by SLDC.

Focus for 2016

It was agreed by those present that the focus for the forthcoming year would be to increase the membership and thereby the voice the Chamber of Trade would have when dealing with outside organisations, authorities etc. The Secretary pointed out that the Chamber of Trade where being asked for their collective opinions more and more.

AOB

The Secretary reported that:

- Penny Seeds had retired from Manuka in Windermere and that he had made contact with the new owners.
- It was noted with regret that Shirley 'C' was closing down.

Barry Butler closed the meeting at 7:53pm.

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