

Notes of a general Members Meeting held on the 8th November 2016 at the Burnside Hotel, Kendal Road, Bowness on Windermere commencing at 6pm.

A number of members were present.

Apologies

All Season Guest House	Caroline & Jonathon Kaye (Cedar Manor)
Liz Blaney (Fairfield Guest House)	La Galerie D'art (Jill Crisp & Mr. Tonnet)
Eve Blatchley (Hon. Member)	Paul Liddell (Lakelovers)
David Carter (David Carter Chemists)	Ian Seddon (HSBC)
Clayton Butchers	Adam Slater (Booths Supermarket)
Tim Farron (MP)	Tim Swaine (NatWest Bank)
Simon Everett (Past Chair)	World of Beatrix Potter, The
Lisa Holden (Hapimag)	Nigel Wilkinson (Windermere Lake Cruises)
Sue & Peter Jackson (Heart of the Lakes)	

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

Presentation

Barry introduced Tony Blaney who gave a brief presentation on the newly formed group for the accommodation sector called "Windermere Guesthouses together" – www.windermerequesthouses.com

This has been set up to combat the exorbitant charges made by the major 'online' booking agents which is in turn putting local accommodation business under great financial strain. The membership of the group have a presence on the website and are charged a considerably reduced booking fee from the larger online companies. There are at the moment 15 members, who pay a membership fee and are trialling this new concept into the New Year.

There then followed a Q&A session after which Barry thanked Tony for the presentation.

Police

None attendance.

Minutes

The notes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 4th October 2016 were accepted.

Matters Arising

No matters arose.

Correspondence

The Secretary reported that he had received one piece of correspondence from:

- The owners of the Cedar Manor Hotel who reported that they had had a good year but pointed out that they were experiencing staff shortages over the winter months.

Report from Chamber Representatives

- Membership – the Secretary reported that the Chamber had lost another member – HSBC which had now closed in Windermere.
- Windermere – Diessen Town Twinning Association – no report.

- Windermere in Bloom/ Cumbria in Bloom – no report.
- Lakes Line Community Rail Partnership – no report.
- Bowness & Windermere Forward – the Secretary read out the report sent in by Paul Frain who had attended the latest board meeting on behalf of the Chamber.
- Business Task Force – Barry reported that there is to be a meeting on the 9th October. He would report back to the December meeting. The main focus of this group is around ‘flood resilience’ and updates from the LEP.

Christmas Market

It was reported that ‘road closure’ orders had been applied for and granted. All the stalls had been taken up.

Christmas Window Competition

It was AGREED by those present that this should go ahead in the same format as previous year.

Membership Recruitment Campaign

It was AGREED by those present that this should go ahead in the form of;

- Social media
- An article in “Windermere Now”
- Letter of introduction to all new businesses
- Encourage word of mouth

Annual General Meeting

The nomination form of the 2016-17 Officers and Committee members can be found on the website at http://www.wbcoft.org.uk/minutes_agenda.htm and scroll down the page.

AOB

- **Sponsorship**

It was AGREED that the Chamber should donate £35.00 towards the National Poppy appeal and the cost of a wreath which will be laid by the secretary on behalf of the Chamber of Trade at the War Memorial on November 13th as part of the Remembrance Day Parade.

- **Business Rates**

The secretary asked those present to authorise payment of £21.38 to his company, being the cost of the renewal of the Chamber’s domain name for 3 years. This was AGREED to.

Barry closed the meeting at 7:54pm.

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