

**Minutes of Meeting of Wotton-under-Edge Chamber of Trade
Held on Thursday 15th September at The Star Inn, Wotton-under-Edge**

Present: Nick Wavey; Brigitte Appleyard; Angela Dilley; Abi Hutchinson;
Keith & Wendy Bryan; M. Cole; Verity Cole; Judy Parry; Jacqui Moore;
Nicola Jotcham; Michelle Dodd; Janet Walshe; John Cordwell; Karen Peglar;
Claire & Alex Wilkinson; Hilary Roberts

Action

a. Welcome by Alex, President of C o T.

b. Apologies: Sarah McCabe; Peter Roberts; Gareth Kitchen;
Gary; Nicky; Sally; Shirley

c. Approval of minutes of last meeting and matters arising.
Minutes and Agenda will be forwarded to members by e-mail
and posted on the website. Committee will meet two weeks
prior to Chamber meetings. Decided not to post minutes on
the Co-op. noticeboard as felt it was too public.
Minutes amended to thank Nicola who helped put members'
names on website. Minutes approved – proposed by Claire
and seconded by Karen.

d. WPC Tracy Wren was welcomed to the meeting and spoke
about her role in the community, and introduced her colleague
Rick Pellett who will be working in Wotton and Kingswood two
Days a week.
New initiative being launched in Wotton on the 18th Sept. involving
four police officers to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour, etc.
Priorities include tackling car crime, reinforcing vehicle security and
and Shop Watch.
Shop Watch similar to Neighbourhood Watch.; i.e. retailers each contacting
two other retailers should incidences occur – by phone or radio system.
Police willing to visit individual traders and advise on this or any
other security matters. Simple measures to be taken i.e. stickers on
shop windows stating 'shoplifters will be prosecuted' can be
useful deterrent.

Tescos parking – there has been no meeting to date between police and
Tescos. Many complaints received about delivery vehicles.
Before new store opened, Tesco stated they would be using only small
vehicles for their deliveries but this is not happening. Large trucks
offload small amounts. It was suggested that Tesco Distribution Centre
could be contacted to discuss this problem rather than tackling it at
local area – Nick Wavey has agreed to do this.
Tescos has requested parking bays but not popular as this could set a
precedent.

Nick

e) Membership update – membership stands at 44 at present plus 6 more

applications. First Public House, The Falcon, is now a member.
Application forms handed out to members to encourage more to join.

f) Christmas update – Christmas Committee not present but Alex read out the minutes from their last meeting. Event to be called Christmas under The Edge to take place on Saturday 3rd December – all day event starting with Farmers Market – entertainments to include Coffee Morning at Town Hall, Fancy Dress, Santa’s Grotto, etc. Gary has said £1,000 is available from the kitty for funding – proceeds from the raffle should help pay back the funds. Prizes needed for raffle which will be in the form of hampers. The town will be divided into zones and certain members have volunteered to be in charge of each zone – plan circulated.

Trees and lights – Listed Building Consent should be applied for, if no tree holder exists, before trees can be erected – forms available to take home. 4 ft. trees (supplied by Tortworth £5) with 160 light set (outdoor type) £26 + vat. Lights require to be wired on using green garden ties for security in windy conditions. Orders in by end of October. Sample of metal bracket on show. C of T will fund lights up to £1000 (for members of C of T). Alex will visit individual traders & businesses to present scheme and take orders.

Alex

g. Landlord initiative – Alex has spoken to all landlords who have provisionally agreed to have a meeting to discuss. Several members felt that this was not an issue for the C of T to take up as Chamber needs to be impartial.

h. Funding – deferred.

i. Any other business:

- Janet Walshe (Electric Cinema) ran through events to mark the opening of the Cinema on 10th November. Calendar now ready for printing featuring 72 shops and businesses with 12 shops as main photos. Seeking outlets to sell and/or display calendars.
- C of T website – www.wotton.biz – members can check Information, i.e. agenda & draft minutes.
- Membership forms available for anyone to take to recruit new members.
- Several members were not happy about current venue for C of T meetings – Nick Wavey (Wotton Post Office) suggested The British Legion and it was agreed he look into availability and rates.

Nick

Date of next meeting – 20th October at venue to be confirmed

