

Minutes of the Wotton-under-Edge Chamber of Trade Committee Meeting – The Swan Hotel 18th February 2014

Attendees

Alex Wilkinson

Claire Wilkinson

Jill Tebb

Colin Wright

Trevor Mason

Andrew Cope

Rory Mc.Caffrey

Caroline Coxon

1. Apologies

Jamie Mc.Cuaig

Mike Zimmer

2. Matters arising – None

3. Committee vacancies – Vice President. Phil Stimpson had expressed an interest, but no confirmation at this time. Position still available. AW will explore other possibilities.

4. Supper Club report – event held at the Swan on 13th February was well-attended with 29 members and guests. Pete Roberts was the guest speaker. AW provided overview of The Chamber's Raison D'Etre and forthcoming events. Attendees consisted of existing and new members and guests.

5. Review of Raison D'Etre – Further revision made, with an agreement to rectify 'typos' and amend some bullet points to make them more clear.

6. Review of programme of events – breakfast arranged at The Falcon for 7th March, sponsored by Moira Buist for first 20 members who book. Trip to Wickwar Brewery arranged for 13th May; meeting at The Swan; £10 per head; places limited to 16. Tortworth Court – AW had meeting m.with the new Sales Manager, Chris Young, who has expressed an interest in joining The Chamber and arranging an event at Tortworth Court later this year.

Action – AW to upload events to the new website.

7. **Website review – Rory has prepared a first draft of changes; reviewed by the committee and changes suggested. Rory to prepare second draft.**
8. **Payments and bookings – committee wanted members to have the option to pay online by PayPal for membership and events. This has been agreed. Also agreed that bookings for events must be done online so we know the numbers attending.**

9. **Database –**

Action – AW to update.

10. **Membership – Aw and JT to liaise to update list; identify those who haven't renewed and those who have paid. Proposed that membership runs for 12 months from the date of joining, rather than annually from October – agreed. Proposed to reinstate the membership card which can also be used for the discount scheme – agreed.**

Action – AW to find a sponsor to cover £50 costs of design and printing.

Committee debated on reinstating the window stickers, but all decided against.

11. **Financials – decision made by all to remain with Barclays. Martin Roberts & Claire Wilkinson to come off; Jill Tebb, Colin Wright, Jo Roberts to go on.**
12. **AOB – Dave at The Swan has agreed to put a frame in the foyer to state that The Chamber will use The Swan as a venue. He will also provide a list of events.**

AW called Cicada Deli to see if there was any help The Chamber could provide – no response received.

AW suggested writing to Sir David re a visit to Swinhay.

AW asked for committee to approve payment of his expenses to attend a Gloucester Chamber of Commerce event on regeneration of businesses on 27/2 – committee declined as considered it to be of little value.

AW asked committee to approve £20 expenses for him to attend Enterprising Towns Workshop, a one day seminar in Churchdown on 27th March. Committee agreed. AW to report back.

Proposal to set up a working party to look into the feasibility of having a farmers' market in Market Street on Saturdays. Committee agreed a working party should be set up. AW and Colin W will attend, along with any other interested parties.

Noted that Renishaw will be leaving the site in Old Town in Autumn 2014. Priority should be use of the land, in particular, the possibility of parking. AW agreed to discuss Renishaw's plans with Chris Pockett.

TM confirmed The Heritage Centre wish to join The Chamber. TM to confirm to Janet Walshe that THC would pay charity rate.

Next committee meeting – The Swan 18th March 7pm.