



Dartmouth Chamber of Trade & Business The Business Voice of Dartmouth and District

Minutes of September 16th 2008 at The Flavel

Present: Helen Lloyd (Dartmouth Ice Cream Company), Tessa de Galleani (Dartmouth Living), Dave Cawley (Timestep), Mark Simpson (By The Dart), Sue Thompson (TIC), Steve Thomas (Trish Thomas Jewellery), Billy Morris (Dartmouth Police).

1. Apologies

Commander Graham (BRNC), Doug Twigg (D&K), Simon Drew, Chris Ball, Martin Nutt, Sarah Duggan.

2. Minutes of last meeting

Correction : cost of Town Crier to be split 25/75% in his favour.

Subject to this correction minutes of the meeting held on July 15th signed and agreed as an accurate record of the proceedings.

3. Matters arising (not on agenda)

Marketing manager: not discussed yet at TIC, but Sarah Duggan, Doug Twigg & Dave Cawley are happy to take initiative forward.

LAG money: Tessa to find out how to access money.

Food Festival: now up and running and to be held 8th - 12th October.

Xmas lights: now starting fundraising.

4. Update by police

- Billy Morris from the Police reported on the Dartmouth & Kingswear liaison committee meetings held between the local police and the community. They are looking at doing a survey among local traders regarding the perceived problems in town and ways of addressing these issues. He discussed 'Shopwatch' which is a cascade of phone numbers so if any shop has any suspicious people in they can phone another shop to warn them and then they phone the next number on the list and so on. We became aware that the current list is not up to date and misses certain areas of town. Billy to look at updating this list and distributing to traders. He also said that for any major problems traders should call the local police station immediately.

5. Boundary Commission

A response is needed regarding the Boundary Commission proposals. Tessa to poll members as soon as possible as replies have to be in by 25th September. At the meeting it was proposed (MS) that our response be against the unitary authority in favour of a more local solution. Seconded by ST. Voted unanimously.

6. Parking update

It is now clear from local meetings that no new parking spaces can be found, although the group had been tasked with looking at the orchard again - possibly going underground.

The Town Council have backed 5 proposals:

- No small changes for the sake of it
- No parking meters
- Better signage
- Better Park & Ride
- In-town parking if possible.

It was also noted that the new P&R signs are too small.

7. Town Crier

ST approached Les with the results of our discussion in the July meeting. Les is not 100% happy and has asked for the full amount to be paid up front. So, after another discussion it was agreed to agree to this and bring the year forward so it runs from April - April (DC proposed, MS seconded, voted unanimously). However, various things need to be sorted out for next year:

- Outside organisations will have to be contacted and told they will have to pay for his services (ST to do)
- Bookings system needs to be organised better

It was thought that a discussion needs to be had with Les again to sort out these issues.

8. Summer Trading review

It was suggested that a survey be carried out among local businesses to gauge the level of trade over the past year, whether it be up, down (% needed), reasons for this and what Chamber of Trade can do to help. Should be sent to all businesses - not just Chamber members, - and needs to be done annually.

9. Date of next meeting

October 21st

Please note that this is our AGM and will be held in the Guildhall at 6pm.

Signed

Date