



## WELLINGTON CHAMBER OF TRADE & COMMERCE

**Bi-monthly meeting**  
**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at 6pm**  
**The Town Council Rooms, 28 Fore Street, Wellington**

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Sue White, Andrew Govier, Hattie Winter, Sam Parr, Andrew Hunt, Helen Thorne, Janet Reed, Ian Stock, Frank Morris, Alison Stock, Vivienne Stock-Williams, Terry Sanford, Judith Goss, Des Hawkins.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Jackie Govier, John Pragnell, Emma Lee, Cathy Wiggan and Peggy White.

**2. Minutes of previous meeting – Matters Arising**

Wellington Business Fair

Sue White introduced Hattie Winter once again to the group and asked for the feedback received following the recent business fair. Hattie informed that over 100 business people attended the event and told everyone that the feedback had been very positive, informative and helpful and that there was lots of good feeling regarding the event. They particularly like the face to face contact that the event gave. It was felt that a list of exhibitors should be available to everyone prior to the event. That the event could be run six to twelve monthly and run later (possibly by an hour), or on a weekend. Some people felt that more networking space was needed. It was felt that with more advertising it could be even better attended. All in all a great event.

Sue White thanked Hattie for all her help and hard work in putting on the event and Alison Stock for Porter Dodson's assistance in sponsoring the event.

Wellington Food Town

John Pragnell asked Sue White to report back that the Wellington Food Festival had moved their date and that it was now being held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2012. They have sent out invitations to last year's stall holders.

### Wellington Town Council

The Council minutes had been sent out to all Chamber members. Therefore, Sue White asked members if they had any questions for the Councillors following the reading of the minutes.

Andy Govier asked everyone to respond to the boundary changes as soon as possible as the closing date is 5<sup>th</sup> April 2012. He also stated that this was his last Chamber meeting as Mayor as he will revert back to being a councillor and Vivienne will take over the role of Mayor.

Sue White thanked him for his help and support during his Mayoral reign.

### The Town Guide App

Sue White reported that she was still really keen to get the App off the ground and had received a lot of positive feedback from the town's traders. Sue White asked Terry Sanford if he could try to source some funding from Pritex, Swallowfield, Relyon and the Town Council. The other alternative as suggested was to ask the traders to put up a token amount each towards the App.

### Farmers Market

There was no Farmers Market report.

## **3. Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations**

Sue White reported back that she had met with the Carnival Committee Chairman, President and few local traders to discuss joining forces to make it '**The** Town Diamond Jubilee Event'. The meeting had gone well and a lot was achieved. The traders were going to have at least four stalls and set up traditional stands i.e. coconut shies/smash the crockery/smash the rat. Donna, from Rule7, had stated that she would bring her bar out onto the street and have live bands as she did at last years Food Town event. There would be a Kings & Queens theme to the day with a fancy dress competition being held. The council are putting up the bunting along the side of the street and Terry Milton is putting up the bunting across the street.

## **4. Portas Pilot**

Sue asked Sam Parr to report back on this application.

Sam informed everyone that the application was due to be submitted on Thursday, as the closing date was Friday. It had been very well supported by local business. Court Fields School pupils had made a YouTube video to support our application and it was being very well received. Debbie Rugg had set up a FaceBook page which had had over 100 hits and she had also uploaded the YouTube video.

## **5. Any Other Business**

### Chamber Secretary

Sue White informed everyone that Emma Lee had stepped down as Chamber Secretary and asked for volunteers to share out the duties, as she was too busy to take on any more Chamber secretarial work. Ian Stock suggested that we talk to Taunton Chamber the possibility of working together with them

as he'd previously mentioned at the last meeting. He gave Sue White a business card so that she could contact the Taunton Chamber and discuss.

#### Business to Business Dinner – Cleve Hotel

Sue White reminded everyone about the networking dinner that is been held at the Cleve Hotel on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012. This is a joint Chamber event between Somerset Chamber and Wellington Chamber and it would good to see as many members as possible supporting the event

#### Chamber Constitution

Ian Stock and Alison Stock had met to discuss the changes that would be needed to bring it up-to-date.

#### Information Boards

Vivienne Stock-Williams gave us an update on the information boards that were partially sponsored by Waitrose and Sue White passed around a print out of what the information boards were to look like. The information boards had created a lot of interest but Chamber members were not happy with the individual shops being left off the boards as it was originally agreed with Mark Shepherd of Waitrose that the purpose of the boards was to promote the shops in Wellington. It was agreed that the unique individual traders and the shops needed to be advertised better on the boards. The siting of the Waitrose board was discussed and it was noted that they could not go near the main entrance but could possibly go right in front of the shop doorway and be an upstanding board attached to one of the pillars. The other information boards were probably going to be lectern styles and would go next to the parking meters in the other car parks. Richard Coupe is hoping to find more funding and is going to sponsor one of the boards.

#### Welly Boot

The Welly Boot Throwing Championships were to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2012 at Court Fields School. Wellington Lions have offered to with the promotion prior to the event and running of the event on the day. Our Charity this year is Go Commando who will be given the proceeds of the day's raffle and will have an attendance on the day.

**The meeting closed at 8pm.**