



## WELLINGTON CHAMBER OF TRADE & COMMERCE

**Executive Committee Meeting  
Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at 6pm  
The Town Council Rooms, 28 Fore Street, Wellington**

### **Minutes**

**Present:** Sue White, Terry Sanford, Des Hawkins, Helen Thorne, Emma Blake, Frank Morris, Judith Goss, Jackie Govier, Janet Reed, Andy Hunt, Debby Standfast, Joan Herrington, Ian Stock, Vivienne Stock-Williams, Cathy Wiggan, John Thorne and Julia Thorne.

#### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Beryl Griffiths, Sam Parr, Andrew Govier, David Mitton and Alison Stock.

#### **2. Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March were agreed and signed off by Sue White.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

##### South Street

Cathy Wiggan reported that everything was in place for the Royal Wedding

celebrations to be held in South Street on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April, and that they were just hoping for the weather to hold out for the day!

Sue White commented on the fact that the town is very poorly decorated, ie no bunting etc – and that various locals had also picked up and commented on this.

Julia Thorne said that she thought Wellington Town Council owned a number of flags which could be put up – and that there should be one outside the Council Offices in particular.

### Make It Local Map

Terry Sanford informed the Chamber that he had seen the 'rough draft' of the map, which is being worked on by illustrator Lois Mussons – and everyone that has seen it is very pleased with the result.

Although the artist's deadline has been increased by a couple of weeks, to the end of the month, the maps are still expected to be ready for circulation by the middle of July.

The grant has now been received from Taunton Deane Borough Council and has been paid into the Chamber bank account.

### Wellington Town Guide

Richard Coupe of The Edge Directory, has contacted the Chamber regarding the 2011 edition of the 'Wellington Town Guide'. He is hoping that it will include a more comprehensive directory of local businesses, so if you would like your business included details should be sent to Richard via email ([business@wellingtontownguide.co.uk](mailto:business@wellingtontownguide.co.uk)) or telephone 01823 663048. Those Chamber members who wish to display an advert rather than just their business details are being offered a discounted rate.

An email will be circulated to all Chamber members with these details, including the discounted prices.

### Wellington Town Council

Jackie Govier gave the Wellington Town Council report from their recent meeting.

Sergeant Stuart Bell had reported a small increase in crime within the town over the last month, however over the last 3 years there had been a huge drop of 45%. There is going to be a small increase in the number of PCSO's, although he does not feel that this will have much of an effect on the town, as there will be more police operating the town over a larger area – meaning that the town is definitely going to keep its local police station.

It was discussed and decided by the Council that the term any individual spends in the role of Town Mayor should be decreased from the current 2 years, to a term of one year. However, the Council also agreed that they would honour the further year that Andrew and Jackie Govier would run as Mayor and Mayoress – subject to agreement at the next meeting, and providing they are elected in again for their final year.

A Civic Award Scheme is going to be piloted between Wellington Town Council and Beech Grove Primary School. The idea is that pupils are given a Civic Award in recognition for hard work, similar to the Duke of Edinburgh awards. The child will then have a trip to the Council Offices to set up the award, then another trip to actually receive the award.

This is initially being piloted with Beech Grove Primary School as it was the school that contacted the Council with the idea, however if it is successful it is expected to then be opened out to all local primary schools to join if they wish.

Terry Sanford suggested that he liaise further with Jackie Govier on this subject as he feels it is something that the Chamber, and therefore local businesses, could get involved in – possibly by sponsoring an award, or something similar.

#### **4. M2S Media Presentation**

John and Julia Thorne gave an informative and very interesting presentation. They told members a small amount about their background and how they got into Public Relations work, and what their media company can do for local businesses.

They then spoke about the local media, giving advice to members about how to get the best out of the media for their business. See Appendix I for presentation notes.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Helen Thorne reported that the current Chamber account balance was £1433.33, less the £500 Taunton Deane Borough Council grant which is set aside for the Make It Local maps.

There are still a number of members needing to be chased up for subscriptions who have still not paid after receiving their invoice.

#### **6. Any Other Business**

Sue White asked whether anyone knew what was happening with regards to the restoration work on Wellington Monument.

Jackie Govier answered that Wellington Town Council had been in contact with the National Trust and that they were having a second survey done. The National Trust feel that it is a huge job and also a huge amount of money to

rectify the problems – and that the town may need to step in by way of fundraising to help pay for the work.

The Chamber agreed that they thought the people of Wellington would get behind any fundraising schemes and support it, as the Monument is a historic and important local landmark and many locals would be sad to see it go.

Helen Thorne asked whether anyone knew what was happening with Cornhill and the old Medical Centre site.

Vivienne Stock-Williams said that although it had expected Cornhill would have reopened by now, the work is continuing and it is hoped that the boarding should be down soon so that it can return to being used as a walkthrough.

It is still going to be used as retail downstairs and flats upstairs, although it is only the first two buildings (owned by Mr Perry) that have been renovated.

With regards to the old Medical Centre site at Bulford, Wellington Town Council have contacted the site owners, Waitrose, but have heard nothing. However there was an article in this week's edition of the Wellington Weekly News

**The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.**