

**FCOC Executive Committee Meeting.**  
**Tuesday 7th March 2017**

Meeting open 17:30

**Welcome & Apologies**

Welcome

Tom Clarke (TC), James Edgar (JE), Tony Brown (TB), Andy Bryant (AB), Phil Fletcher (PF), Ben Pulford (BP)

Apologies

Stuart Fleetham (SF)

**Quorum**

The chairman, having noted that a quorum was present in accordance with the Ferndown Chamber of Commerce constitution, declared the meeting open.

**Minutes of the last meeting**

Agreed as read

**Matters arising from minutes**

- TB has not heard back from John at the Barrington in reference to becoming the membership coordinator. AB reported that John was waiting to hear from Tony. Crossed wires. TB has been busy and not chased but will call John. TC would like to be involved if TB and John have a meeting.
- TB asked for update on the Christmas committee. SF not present to update so will need to be contacted for update.

**President's report**

Nothing to report.

**Treasurer's Report**

Balance is £2,324.

Outgoings; None

Received; None

Debtors; None

**Membership**

JE reported that SF has had request from Meridian Air Con to join Chamber, TC will phone. JE has been fielding president@ email as TC has not got it setup on his computer yet. TC to setup email and will correspond with new members. TB feels all new members should receive phonecall from president or vice president when joining.

TB to meet with John (Barrington) to get him setup as Membership Manager. John will be invited to attend committee meetings. Vote held on whether John should have voting rights at meetings. 3 for, 3 against, President deciding vote went against. John to attend meeting but will not have a vote.

TC feels more engagement with members is required. JE reported that agenda and email newsletter goes out each month. AB suggested buying text bundles. These send out texts to mobile phones on a



150 words per text basis. If we had all the mobile numbers for the members then they could be uploaded to a contact list and texted in bulk. AB said Text Local provide a good service at 0.4p per text. Have to buy bundles of texts for £150. BP liked the idea as another approach to engagement. PF said text is more personal than email. TB: get John in and the contact lists up-to-date first and then revisit the idea in a couple of months.

### **Membership Renewals**

Renwals due on 1<sup>st</sup> April, giving us 3 weeks to get the packs made up. JE happy to do the invoices and put with the packs to send out. TC has envelopes JE can use and will drop them into shop. AB will liase with JE for the stickers. TB suggested using last year's list for the addresses, need John (Barrington) to get members details up-to-date.

### **Correspondance and feedback**

JE: new care home opening called Ferndown Manor part of Care UK group. Robin Hill customer relations manager been into see him and would like to attend a committee meeting meeting. TC asked if they would join Chamber. TC will email to find out more.

All correspondence needs to be directed to TC and BP. So far TC and BP not received any correspondence.

### **Website**

JE: Website has been hacked on a couple of occasions recently. TC can't login. JE: free theme may not be secure enough, maybe need to pay for a premium theme. TC asked BP to source a new theme. TC no longer has enough time to manage day-to-day running of the site. AB suggested having new site built by Chrissy Firkins. TB asked JE to be the webmaster again. JE happy to give it a go. TC can continue to update events and happy to upload new theme.

### **DCCI upcoming events**

Please check the DCCI website for full details of all the upcoming events, training courses and Networking meetings. TB will be attending several of these meetings over the next couple of months. TB attended the Presidents lunch last month which had a strong turnout and excellent to see so many high profile local businesses in attendance.

TB reported that DCCI events are really great and he is happy to attend any events with anyone from FCOC if they want to go. Suggested getting a table together to attend either the Christmas lunch or business awards later in the year.

### **AOB**

JE has been contacted by Fete on the Field organisers who have asked if they can contact FCOC members for sponsorship. TC will email them to let them know this is fine.

AB reported that the 5@7 networking event took place at the Barrington and there were 24 stalls, some of which did clash with Chamber members. TB not impressed with turnout of the event and said that there were very few Ferndown businesses present. AB said 5@7 would like to come back and do it again but make it a bigger business event with Chamber involvement. TB said that DCCI and Mark Kiteley are potential sponsors. TB feels the event should have full backing of the Chamber. AB said it would be positive for the town. Targeting an Autumn 2017 event.

AB: Vanessa FTC has contacted RBS who have now confirmed the poppy launch can go ahead in Penny's Walk again this year. AB reported Penny's Walk is up for sale. TB asked what is happening about the market. JE reported that SMT are not giving up, looking at potential car parks in the town where they could hold it. TC wants to push the market forward with RBS or the new buyers of Penny's Walk. PF: need to get in contact with new buyers early to get them onside.

Meeting closed 19:10

