

Minutes of the Committee Meeting 1st JULY 2014

Present: President – James Edgar (Ferndown Photography)
Vice President - John Worsfold (Pedals)
Secretary - Julie Hardman (Planit)
Treasurer – Tony Brown (Y not finance)
Marketing – Banu Biret. (Trash Media)
Membership – Stuart Fleetham (Xerocad)
Ben Pulford (M4D)

Apologies Sue Cornell (Jolliffes)
Phil Fletcher (Ferndown Florists)
Jo Gracie – Lifestyle kitchens

Welcome and apologies

James opened the meeting and welcomed the committee members.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Previous minutes from 2nd June were agreed and signed by James.

President's Report

James updated the committee on the latest developments and was still trying to get through to his contact with regards to holding weekly markets in Penny's Walk. The hold up was because of the renewal of the leasehold and James had spoken to Goadsby and this was expected to be sorted out shortly.

He reported that 6 new members had been added to the web site.

James reported that the town seemed busier re the impact of Costa Coffee,

ACTION – James to investigate market for the town.

Treasurer's report

The overall balance on the account was £6751.71. This included £2772.64 relating to the pram race and £927 for the Christmas lights leaving a net balance of £3052.07. Tony proposed donating £1000 to the Xmas lights fund or to donate a sum to a local charity or it could be used to provide a Xmas event. 44 members in total had paid up so far this year.

ACTION – members to determine where excess funds should be spent

Membership Secretary

Stuart had been busy with baby duties but was now back at work! Stuart is intending to visit new potential members. Julie recommended that Stuart start with the shops that had donated prizes for the tombola on the pram race day eg Sweet Sensations as they had expressed interest in joining the FCOC. Stuart felt that he needed some help with this so it was recommended that Jo could assist. In addition, Stuart still working on the membership packs and had come up with 2 options:-

- 1) To send out the full pack which may take some time to do
- 2) Send basic information and card only

Members still want the info on costs.

Stuart still needs info on the contents as follows:

- membership certificate
- events taking place
- newsletter
- sticker for window/car
- list of benefits
- offers
- testimonials

New joiners – Ferndown Fitness, Tracey's Place, Sid sorts it, Creations, and Awake the Change,

ACTION – Stuart to prepare costings

- Members to contribute re contents of pack
- Julie to speak to Jo re assisting Stuart

Any Other Business

Communications

John needed more information and leaflets for the display box in Penny's walk. Rather than have an A2 poster with events, John suggested that it would be better for individual businesses to advertise; say 6 per month.

Banu would prompt existing members for their contributions.

James was compiling a newsletter which would go on the group Facebook page.

ACTION – members to submit leaflets to John for the display board
- James to prepare newsletter

Events

John had prepared a list of suggested events for the rest of the year (see attached)
It was suggested that an informal event be held, possibly at The Nightjar, at end of July. £60 of wine to be donated as a prize.
Banu suggested sending out a survey; those businesses who don't respond would be contacted to find out the reason.

Quiz Night

Stuart had reported that 11th October had been pencilled in for the next quiz night.
Oakdene had been proposed as the venue however Tony proposed that The Barrington should be used with possibly a fish and chips meal included. The cost of the night to be decided. Raffle prizes would be welcome for the night.

ACTION - Stuart and Phil to talk to Barrington and organise Quiz night.

Pram Race/ Festival Week

John, Banu and Julie had worked on the tombola for the Pram Race day. Many shops and businesses had donated fabulous prizes and an additional £314 has been raised towards the Xmas lights. The stall also advertised businesses in the town. A letter of thanks should be sent to all those businesses that donated prizes.

ACTION – Banu/ John to draft thank you letters and send to participating shops.

Xmas Lights

Tony reported that the design had been chosen for the new lights for Ringwood Road, A Xmas tree had been ordered to go outside Topknots. As more cars drove through Ringwood road this would be an improvement from the previous years. Shop owners should be encouraged to get involved. Salvation army and husky dogs had been ordered by Sue for the Xmas Lights event. It was thought an Xmas market would be good crowd puller. Other topics discussed were Reindeer, Father Christmas and shop window competition.

ACTION: John, Jo, (Tony), Ben and Banu to set up Xmas sub committee.

AOB

The chamber had been using the Barrington for meetings and it was felt that a contribution for using the facilities should be made to The Barrington. John proposed £50 per quarter and this was seconded by James.

Business Awards

John and Ben to get more information on participating in the Dorset Business awards or having a separate award for the businesses in Ferndown.
Banu had been speaking to the President of Bournemouth Chamber who had stated that he was keen to work together on this.

FCOC Constitution

Tony and James had been looking at the FCOC constitution which may need changing as the Chamber moved forward..

The next meeting would be on Tuesday 5th AUGUST 2014; to be held at the Barrington, starting at 5.15pm.

Signed
Dated

DRAFT ONLY