

Bude & Area Chamber of Commerce

Meeting held 6th February @ 7.30pm at The Falcon Hotel

Members Present;

Nicky Chopak, Julie Howes, Mark Osborne, Peter & Clare Le Broy, Peter Cobbledick, Harry McConville,

Apologies;

Anne Cobbledick, Gary Page, Alan Dickerson, Adam Covell, Anna Newson

Matters Arising;

Christmas! – Ideas for fund-raising were discussed – Cllr Frank Partridge also has not replied to our enquiry regarding the funding that BSTC has allocated to ‘decorative lighting’. Mark Osborne and Pete Le Broy to chase.

It was also decided to seriously promote the brackets for Xmas Trees during the year – Nicky has a few left which we could ‘sell’ in the year. They could then be used for flags or any other promotional material by individual shops. Nicky then also added they could be used for the Bude logo banner being promoted by the Bude Partnership.

Late Night Shopping

We have now received the invoice from Mike Vanstone to close the roads - £563.00. A discussion followed as to whether Late night shopping for 2007 should incorporate road closure as neither Rotary – who had been approached- or members of the Chamber were willing to pay for this. It will therefore come out of Chamber funds this time but will leave us seriously depleted. Serious decisions will need to be made prior to next years event.

Treasurers Report;

Total balance; £1788.34

Any Other Business

Bude is one of 13 towns awarded the Market & Coastal Towns Initiative. This will be good news for Bude but sustainable projects and ideas are needed and for the whole town to pull together! The Chamber of Commerce is central to this initiative and input is required from all the members. New members would be good to provide new ideas and impetus.

The AGM is arranged for April 3rd – the current committee discussed the prospect of an election and how we could encourage new committee members.

Work at the Bencoolen Bridge was discussed – CCC have yet to decide if redevelopment or repair is to take place and whether this would be in conjunction with works which will be started under the Canal Regeneration Project – it would be a ‘building site’ in and around the Wharf area. Previous exploratory work caused some disruption to trade in the town recently and it was realised that any long term work could have significant effect on the trade in the town – NC to find out more.

Date of next meeting; 6th March @ 7.30 – The Falcon