

Meeting Presteigne & Norton Chamber of Trade and Commerce The 14th October 2015, Broadheath House, Presteigne.

Present: Ann Wake (AW) (Chair), Wendy Toomey (WT), Leon Abecasis (LA), Andrea Jude (AJ), Jemima Alexander (JA), Peter Mace (PM) & Lysette Phillips (LP) (Secretary).

Apologies: Colin Felgate, James Tennant Eyles, David Tennant Eyles, Kevin Long

Minutes of Meeting 14th September 2015

Minutes agreed.

Matters Arising:

Insurance

AW has found a new insurance company who will insure the Christmas lights and their installation for £303 and The Chamber of Trade functions for another £354, making a substantial saving on the previous premiums.

Town Council Precept

£1500 has been applied for, this has been agreed and The CoT are just waiting for the payment from The Town Council

Green Presteigne

AW informed everyone that any proposals put forward to make changes to the objectives of The CoT, must be put forward to the AGM next year. Our Mission Statement is available on the Town Council Website and changes need to be implemented to this to bring it up to date with regard to The CoT Green Objectives.

New Year Trade Visit

Still ongoing.

Kirsty Williams

No date has been agreed yet for her visit as The CoT are waiting for her office to come back with some dates.

Shop Local Scheme

Still ongoing

Treasurer's Report

Balance as last meeting: £1668.32

Balance at this meeting: £1668.32

Fundraising Programme

AW reported that she had raised £692 from the sale of raffle tickets for the recent draw. All agreed that the effort was well worth it and should be done every year. Everyone also thanked AW for all her hard work and efforts in achieving such a great result. AW went on to remind everyone that more volunteers were needed next year to help sell tickets during the Presteigne Festival and Car Rally. She also agreed to contact the Car Rally organiser to see if there was any feedback they would like passed back on their behalf.

Market Stalls

AW reported that The Prince Charles Countryside Trust gives the best return for grant applications, giving extra features and potential, with a possible fund amount of £50,000, which could be used to create a storage space for the market stalls. This could be utilised for the purchase of the market stalls as they will be for the whole community to use.

However it will need to be demonstrated what use the stalls will bring to the community for this to come under this funding remit. LA asked what time scale the CoT is looking at to purchase the stalls and whether they would be available for next year's Food Festival. WT felt the staging of a Food Festival should not be dependent on the purchase of stalls and JA suggested the week of 18th June 2016 as a potential Festival date as there were no other major events in the area at that time. AW raised that RB has her usual Vintage Car Rally in that week but all felt this may be an advantage with the possibility to promote a bigger event all round. WT reminded everyone that promotion and advertising are key and she has plenty of information which she is happy to pass on and share from working on the last event. Both AW and WT stated that a Steering Group should be set up and scheduled as soon as possible, all agreed to make Monday 26th at 5.30pm for this meeting.

AW also reported that a public meeting will be held in Presteigne on November 2nd to give residents of Presteigne and Norton an opportunity to feed back on PCC proposals to hand over responsibilities to the community. This will enable a report to be produced in time for the April 2016 deadline for grant applications.

Marketing and Publicity

AW asked for volunteers to help with Marketing and Publicity. AW has registered a Facebook page for both the Recycling Site and for The CoT, JA agreed to administer these on behalf of The CoT.

Recycling Operation

PCC has agreed to backdate payment to The CoT, for this site, to February 2015 and payment should be forthcoming imminently. AW has the signs ready and WT will collect them during the coming week, to put up. AW suggested changing some of the recycling bins on the site but this has not been actioned. LA asked for bins suitable for recycling plastic trays. There is an issue with residents dumping unsuitable items into the bins because they can be easily accessed and they don't lock. It was also noted that there is very little awareness by the local community that this site is now run by The CoT. However once the new signs are up, this issue should be rectified.

Christmas Fair

AW asked for help with administration of a Facebook page for this event. AW informed everyone that she felt stall holders for this event should contribute some payment towards trading during this event. AJ asked for more helpers to assist with organising the Fair and all agreed to contribute towards this and to have a meeting to discuss this further.

AOB

WT has spoken to Kate McDermott about promoting a Folk Festival in Presteigne and has agreed to help at the steering group for this. AW has suggested involving the Community Plan committee with the organisation of this. AW also agreed to talk to the members about the Agincourt Event at the Judges Lodgings and has asked members of the CoT to help promote this. WT also asked members to promote the Poetry event and JA and PM mentioned the Game and Wine Tasting Night on 26th November at Trebuer House.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 3rd November at The Oak, Presteigne.

December meeting to be held at The Duck's Nest on November 30th 2015

This meeting will be for the preparation of The Christmas Fair, wrapping presents etc.