

Meeting Presteigne & Norton Chamber of Trade and Commerce The Dukes, Presteigne, 18th May 2015

Present: Ann Wake (AW) (Chair), James Tennant Eyles (JTE) (Treasurer), Leon Abecasis (LA) Wendy Toomey (WT), Colin Felgate (CF), Paul Charles (PC) & Lysette Phillips (LP) (Secretary).

Apologies: Charlie Minskip, Dale Gorman, Charlie Kingham.

Minutes of Meeting 2015

Minutes agreed.

Matters Arising:

LA reported the Farmers Market Committee want to purchase approximately 10 market stalls so have suggested going 50/50 with The CoT. Currently they are looking at the cost of 10 stalls and to see if they can achieve a discount for bulk purchase. WT suggested again, looking at what funding opportunities may be available. All agreed that the pop-up stalls would be the best option as they are easy to use and erect.

Treasurer's Report

Balance at last meeting:	£482.27
Membership payments in:	£60.00
Balance at this meeting:	£542.27

Christmas Lights Update

CF reported that the failure of the Christmas lights was down to faulty connectors which join the strings and almost every connector showed signs of water ingress. However the main fault was in connectors which did not join to anything and therefore in theory should not have failed. CF has spoken to the manufacturers and claimed 6 new strings of lights in compensation. He suggests greasing the connectors to see if that rectifies the fault but informed the manufacturer that he reserves the right to return all the lights and request a refund should the same issue occur again. WT suggested it may be better to just ask for a refund however JTE suggested giving the supplier another year and demand a refund if they fail again this coming year. All agreed the supply company appeared to be a genuine and helpful company so agreed to give them a second chance. John Wilding is to be invoiced for the old lights which were passed to him for Norton Sports Committee.

Flamenco Night:

LA requested more raffle prizes from members please and tickets are going well.

Recycle Centre Update

WT informed the committee that the complaints about the site have almost completely disappeared. The payment for the recycling is to be paid quarterly and therefore the first payment should be due soon. Bank Holiday rubbish collection will be collected as normal. WT has a 'No Fly Tipping' sign which needs to be erected. JTE asked LA how things are going with keeping the site clear and he confirmed that everything was okay at the present time. AW suggested trying to get more information out to the community to try to attract more people in helping to keep the site tidy.

Signs: Richard Studor has agreed to complete the signs for the Bring Site JTE will deliver them to CM to get the signs finished and these will serve as a temporary measure until more permanent metal signs are purchased. Once the signs are up, AW would like to arrange a photo shoot with members in their CoT jackets for a press release.

Membership Drive Membership Evening

AW would like to try to push for more members so would like to organise a 'come along' meeting. PC suggested CoT stickers for shop windows and all agreed a Chamber of Trade Facebook page was a good idea. LA will contact Sally Butler to see if she can assist with creating a Facebook page as she has done web pages for several other local places.

Community Plan Consultation

JTE informed the meeting, that a lot of funding is coming out of Central Welsh Government and the need is there to be prepared with plans of any applications you may want to apply for funding. This is important as often the notifications for funding have very little lead times by which to get your application in. The drive is for local committees to take ownership for local items and they should be pro-active rather than re-active, investigating and enquiring from the local community what is important to them and try to see how this can be administered at a local level by a strategy committee. WT agreed that everyone must get involved with their community.

AOB

Thanks were passed to the Secretary for her continued support.

Next Meeting:

Monday 1st June 2015 at The Oak, Presteigne.