

LOSTWITHIEL BUSINESS GROUP

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE 2007 32 FORE ST, LOSTWITHIEL

Present: S Sanders, M Hoskin, P Wilton, G Sanders, S Hendicott, M Sands, D Watts, M Askew, L Abrahams, M Dobbie, D Phipps (DP), A Barratt (AB), J Manwaring (JM), P Bassett, K Townsend, V Wansleben, K Southgate (KS)

Apologies S Sherwood, J Tamblin, H Swire

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes from meeting held 11th April 2007 were accepted with the following correction on page one:-

“LBG now has 71 members” should read “LBG now has 70 members.”

Matters Arising

Christmas Lights 2006 – John Hooper has requested £50 should be donated to St Bartholomew's PCC and £50 to Oasis Youth Club.

Chairman's Report

AB highlighted events of the Business Group during the past year. These included:

- Organising the first Arts and Antiques Festival which was held as part of the du Maurier Festival A great success, despite the terrible weather at the start of the event.
- Another successful Dickensian Evening last December.
- A marquee at the Royal Cornwall Show to raise the profile of the town.
- More good publicity for the town in magazines during the year.
- Membership of the business group has increased to 70.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the Annual Accounts. Bank balance at start of Financial Year was £2278. The group received an income of £1822 during the year ended 30 April 2007. Expenditure was £3514. Bank balance at the end of Financial Year was £586. Copies of the accounts were circulated at the meeting.

The Treasurer thanked to Brian Smith of Lanhydrock Accountancy Practice who verifies our accounts without charge.

The treasurer also presented a report of anticipated expenditure during the coming year.

Area Forum Report

During the year The Forum received a £47,000 grant from Lottery fund to allow a Heritage project to be undertaken in the town.

Work continues in setting up a Local Nature Reserve, funded by another £50,000 grant from Lottery funds.

The Forum Office will be moving to the refurbished Station Building later this year. The cost of renovating and reopening the Station building will also be approximately £50,000, funded by grants from various organisations.

Election of Officers

Chairman - Adrian Barratt proposed by V Wansleben, seconded by M Hoskin. Elected unopposed.

Vice Chairman - J Manwaring proposed by M Sands, seconded by M Hoskin. Elected unopposed.

Treasurer – D Phipps proposed by D Watts, seconded by M Dobbie. Elected unopposed.

Assistant Treasurer – L Abrahams proposed by D Watts, seconded by M Sands. Elected unopposed.

Secretary - M Askew proposed by A Barratt, seconded by M Dobbie. Elected unopposed.

Subscription

In view of increased expenditure there was a discussion about raising the subscription to £25 for 2007. However the meeting agreed the subscription will remain at £20 for the coming year. It was suggested that the subscription may have to be raised to £25 for 2008.

The meeting was reminded that subscriptions are now due. These may be paid at Watts Trading, Déjà Vu or Muffins.

AOB

Lostwithiel Arts and Antiques Festival

Mike Dobbie, Chair of the Arts and Antiques Festival, provided a report on the Festival which took place on Sunday 13th May 2007. The event was well attended and enjoyed by both visitors and stallholders. The event raised over £1000 for Cornwall Hospice Care. It is planned to repeat the event next year.

Royal Cornwall Show

Mike Dobbie presented a report about Lostwithiel's exhibit at the 2007 Royal Cornwall Show which was attended by 10 members of the Business Group. The excellent weather resulted in record attendances at the Show. Our marquee was well received by members of the public and helped raise the profile of the town.

Unfortunately two LBG members who originally intended to take space in the marquee withdrew at the last minute, which resulted in a small loss after the short term loan of £564 is repaid to the Business Group. Mike Dobbie agreed to purchase the outstanding stock of 500 "Hidden Treasure" carrier bags to mitigate the loss.

The meeting thanked Mike Dobbie for his hard work in organizing both the Royal Cornwall Show exhibit and the Arts and Antiques Festival.

Flags for Carnival Week

The Chairman reminded the meeting of plans to use the existing Christmas Tree brackets to hold flags for Carnival Week.

Regatta Day

An invitation from Rotary to run a stall on Regatta Day has been received. The meeting decided to decline the offer.

Meeting Venue

The committee will investigate alternative venues.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 5 September 2007 at 8 pm in Muffins, 32 Fore St, Lostwithiel.