

LOSTWITHIEL BUSINESS GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING

WEDNESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2005 32 FORE ST, LOSTWITHIEL

Present: M Hoskin, D Watts, M Sands, L Abrahams, L Southgate, R Brown, H Swire, C Swire, J Manwarring, M Dobbie, D Phipps (DP), A Barratt (AB), K Southgate (KS),

Apologies C Wood, S Sanders, M Fitzgerald, Susanna Sherwood (Mountchase), Peregrine Hall, Country Fryer

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes from meeting held 14 September 2005 were accepted.

Matters Arising

The "speed trigger" sign on the A390. - KS wrote to Cornwall County Council Road Safety section in Redruth on October 22nd. Reply awaited. **Action KS Continues**

Correspondence and emails

Restormel Council have circulated a "Quality of Life" questionnaire to all organisations in the Borough who have received a Voluntary Organisation Grant. Secretary responded on 19th October.

Lostwithiel Area Forum have requested nominations for Business Group to provide three representatives to serve on the Area Forum following the AGM on 30th November. (See Area Forum Section)

Secretary has also responded to two emails on behalf of TIC: a request from Visit Cornwall about Christmas activities in the town and a request from a Tennis Club in Hamburg who are organising a Cornwall Evening.

Chairman's Report

Chairman has been working on development of new leaflet, and liaison with Cornish Guardian about Christmas advertisement for Lostwithiel. (See relevant section of minutes for details.)

Treasurer's Report

There are now 58 paid up members of the Group, with Peregrine Hall and Lostwithiel Antiques joining since the last meeting. The current bank balance is £2684-61.

Area Forum Report

Bids for Lottery funding for the Local Nature Reserve and to carry out activities to promote the heritage and history of the town are being prepared with the help of a consultant, who is funded via grants from Restormel Council and the Market and Coastal Towns Initiative.

Forum office is currently closed due to water damage to the building.

The Area Forum AGM will be held on 30th November. The Business Group have three representatives on the committee. D Phipps, R Brown and K Southgate agreed to represent the Business Group on the Area Forum. **Action KS** - to confirm nominations in writing to Chairman of Area Forum.

Town Map Redesign

Adrian Barratt, Mike Dobbie and Denise Watts gave an impressive presentation of their plans for a redesigned town map, combined with information and photographs of the town. Also the names and addresses of all members of the Business Group will be published.

A composite coloured drawing of the town, showing the castle, bridge and Church is being prepared for the front cover of the new leaflet.

The sub-committee have devised a new strapline *Lostwithiel – Cornwall's Hidden Treasure*.

Guide prices for printing the leaflet have been obtained. The first 5000 copies will cost approx £1200, with extra copies costing approx £80 per 1000. Mike Dobbie explained a plan whereby for future years the basic design could be produced now, but text could be added later, allowing for changes in Group membership.

A motion allowing expenditure of up to £2000 for printing the leaflet, and congratulating the sub committee on their work, was proposed by Martin Sands and seconded by Lindsay Southgate. The motion was agreed unanimously by the meeting.

It is planned to publish the new leaflet by Easter 2006. Confirmation of correct names and addresses of Business Group Members is needed. KS to produce a short "Newsflash" to distribute to all members. **Action KS**

Dickensian Evening - 15 December

KS has spoken to Fred Stevens who is happy to allow activities to take place round the Church.

Update on Actions

Book Church Hall as standby if wet – KS has contacted Vera to book the Church Hall. Young Farmers will run their "hot dog" stall as before.

Contact Bell Ringers - KS has spoken to Simon Brewer. The Dickensian Evening clashes with the Boconnoc Carol Service starting at 7-30. However Simon and his team will be available to ring the Church Bells at 6pm at the start of the evening.

Contact WI – The WI wish to have a stall in Churchyard similar to last year.

Contact St Winnows School re Carols – KS spoke to Headmistress Mrs Strawbridge on 9th November. Awaiting response. **Action KS Continues**

Pam Jarratt from River Church has been in contact with Secretary offering to sing carols on the evening. Also the Guides are interested in participating in the evening.

Draft "running order" for entertainment as follows:

5-50 pm Churchbells

6 pm – Handbells / Carols from St Winnow School (TBC)

6-30 pm Lostwithiel Brass Band (Outside Duchy Palace / Fore St)

7 pm St Minver Brass Band (Outside Social Club)

7-30 pm Carols from River Church (Outside Duchy Palace / Fore St)

8 pm Lostwithiel Brass Band (Outside Duchy Palace / Fore St)

8-30 pm St Minver Brass Band (Outside Social Club)

Promotion for Dickensian Evening - Cornish Guardian are running a one colour page feature on shopping in Lostwithiel, with mention of Dickensian evening. Advert should be in newspaper on November 23rd.

Post Meeting note – The feature appeared on 17th November.

Mike Dobbie showed a draft flyer he had designed for the Dickensian evening. Meeting agreed Mike should arrange for 1500 copies of flyer to be printed. Cost will be £50 to £60. These will be distributed via shops in Lostwithiel prior to event. Also 50 A4 posters to be printed. Mike will distribute the flyers to shops in Fore St. If anybody else would like copies then please contact Mike at Nanadobbie.

Mike is preparing news release for local papers, and has also been in contact with Radio Cornwall. Mike will write a short item to include in December Lostwithiel Newsletter. (Needs to be given to Julia in Bookshop by 20th November.)

Martin Sands has arranged for Duchy Palace to be open for the Dickensian evening from 6pm to 9pm. The Freemasons will be arranging a small exhibition inside the Duchy Palace.

AB has contacted Will at the Globe. There will be music on December 15.

We will need to move tables and chairs from the Church Hall at 5-30, returning them at 9 pm. **AB to organise**. Tom Watts and Richard Brown offered to help at 5-30. Chris & Hedi Swire and Richard Brown offered to help at 9 pm. The Church Hall needs to be open from about 5pm.

Christmas Decorations

Christmas Trees - 70 trees have been ordered. Trees will be delivered to Library on 25th November. It is planned that all trees should be erected and illuminated by 1st December. **DP to contact Brendon**

AB has contacted John Hooper. Work should start on setting up lights in Churchyard on November 19th **Action AB to Co-ordinate** Volunteers to check status of lightbulbs are needed. Please contact Adrian.

Christmas Decoration Grant from RBC - KS spoke to Restormel Council Finance Dept on 3 November. Grants may be available this year. A letter was sent on 4th November requesting grant. Response awaited. **Action KS - Continues**

AOB

Lostwithiel Guide

The Guide, in a similar format to Jonathan Barker's version, is being published for 2006 by John Thomlinson. Letters requesting repeat advertisements have recently been sent to businesses in the area.

Web Site

Richard Brown updated the meeting with information about the current status of the lostwithiel.org.uk web site. Faced with a huge increase in hosting costs from our original supplier, the web site has been moved to a new server. This move has coincided with Richard moving house and hence the web site has not been reconfigured as quickly as intended.

Richard demonstrated various options for the redesigned site. Lindsay Southgate reminded the meeting that although the web site was funded by the Business Group, it was designed to serve the whole community not just business interests.

Two Minute Silence - Armistice Day

Susanna from Mountchase has suggested marking the start and finish of the 2 minutes silence in 11th November in a similar manner to the Gun that sounds at Plymouth. Possibly a Church Bell could be sounded, or maybe the old air raid siren could be used. The meeting endorsed the idea and agreed to support Susanna if she wishes to pursue the idea for next year.

Restormel Council Tourism Forum

Borough Councillors and representatives of various Tourist Information Centres visited Lostwithiel and Fowey on 11th November.

Western Morning News Best Food Town Competition

Our written report has been submitted. We must now wait a couple of months to find out if Lostwithiel has been shortlisted in the competition.

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 15th February 2006 at 8 pm 32 Fore St, Lostwithiel.