

LOSTWITHIEL BUSINESS GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2007

Present: S Sanders, P Bassett, G Sanders, M Dobbie, M Sands, S Hendicott,
V Wansleben, A Barratt (AB), D Phipps (DP), K Southgate,
M Askew (MA), J Manwaring

Apologies: D Watts, L Abrahams, M Fitzgerald, M Hoskin, J Tamblin,
Paul (Trewithen)

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes from meeting held 13th June 2007 were accepted.

Correspondence

The Secretary has received one letter since the last meeting, from Lostwithiel Area Forum regarding a Characterisation Survey of Lostwithiel. The letter invites members of LBG to go along and join in the discussions or just discover what it is all about at a public meeting to be held on Monday 24th September at 7.30 pm in the Church Rooms.

Chairman's Report

AB reported that the amended Town Map has been submitted to Palace Printers and should be available in about 3 weeks time. 11 changes have been made since the last print run and it is proposed that the next batch will be 7,500 to run until end of August 2008.

Treasurer's Report

The bank balance as at 1st August 2007 is £2,098.24. Expected expenses are approximately £800 for the Town Maps and expenses incurred by Dickensian Evening in December.

DP reported that 68 members paid £20 subscriptions and although 5 members have been lost, we have gained 3 new members who are Call Paul Computers, Castle Tours and PMO Plumbing & Heating.

Town Forum Report

K Southgate outlined plans for a characterisation survey of Lostwithiel as part of the project 'Discovering and Celebrating Lostwithiel's Heritage' which is being funded through a £50,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery fund. The purpose of the survey is to discover as much about the historic development of the town as possible. Nigel Thomas, Senior Archaeologist will introduce the HES (Historic Environment Service) team of eight specialists to the people of Lostwithiel in a series of three meetings throughout the year while the survey is being carried out.

The Forum has also been involved in discussions with the County Council regarding the proposed sale of the Duchy Palace. M Sands reported that the Masons are intending to vacate the premises by the end of January 2008 and that the building will be auctioned by Jefferys in approx May/June 2008.

Dickensian Evening

H Swire has confirmed to AB that everything is in place for Dickensian Evening and that she will recruit other members of the Group to help out on the evening at a later date.

Flyers and posters are being organised by M Dobbie for the end of October.

Action: M. Dobbie

Other ideas put forward for investigation for this year's event were:-

A Town Crier to announce everything that is going on in the streets. **Action: AB**

Lerryn Players to be approached to see if they want to participate in any way and use the advertising opportunity for their panto. **Action: DP**

Local School/College Drama Groups to be asked if they would like to dress as Dickens characters. **Action: V. Wansleben**

Cornish Produce stalls around the Town. **Action: AB**

The Masons will be approached at their next meeting to see if it is possible for the Duchy Palace to be used for stallholders on Dickensian night. It was also suggested that we use the building beforehand for a fund raising event for the Christmas lights, possibly at Halloween. **Action: J Manwaring**

Any further ideas for Dickensian Evening, please forward to AB or H Swire.

Venue For Future Meetings

DP reported that the Station Waiting Room and new shelter will be available for use 26th September. He will explore the possibility of using the new Town Forum office behind the waiting room for the LBG meetings in the future. K Southgate has kindly offered the use of Muffins for the next meeting if nothing else becomes available. **Action: DP**

The group would like to thank Keith & Lindsey for their support in providing the venue for the meetings over the last few years.

AOB

DP asked for an update regarding the Lostwithiel.org website and how amendments and additions will be made. AB reported that there is a plan in place for individuals who wish to make amendments to their business details to be given an access password in order for them to do so, but also that

Richard at Cregy is still committed to providing support for the website.

AB asked for input into the idea of collective bags for the town made of degradable plastic, the cost being cheaper if a number of businesses were interested in a bulk order. This is still open for discussion.

A date for erecting the Christmas lights is yet to be determined, with an electrician available for wiring the lights into the boxes. **Action: AB**

Everyone agreed that the Flags that were put up for Carnival week were very smart and made the town look very bright and colourful and thanks go to Denise Watts and her team of helpers who worked extremely hard to achieve this.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st November at 8.00pm. Venue will be advised in due course.