

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHERBORNE CHAMBER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE HELD AT THE EASTBURY HOTEL ON THURSDAY 17 APRIL 2008 AT 6.00PM.

Present: Jan Pearce - Chair (Tenovus)
Cllr. Victor Clark - Vice-Chair (Martin Clark Consultants)
Tony McDermott - Treasurer (Lanham & Francis)
Thelma Drabik - President (Melbury Gallery)
Joanne Myram - (Positive PR)
Robert Cooper - (Albert Goodman)
Brian King (Castle Gardens)
Julie Hopkins
Nigel Engert (Sherborne Area Partnership-SAP)
Jan Ebelender (SAP - LEONARDO student)
Simon Haslam (Veriton Ltd)
Felicite Clark
Anthony Elliot-Square (Third Dimension)
Lizzie Kingsbury (SHARP)
Lindi Hunt (DIVA/Ruby)
Richard Hunt (DIVA/Ruby)
Gail Anderson (Western Gazette)
Paul Arthur (Mid-West Office Supplies)
Andrew Maddock (Mid-West Office Supplies)
Paul King (Eastbury Hotel)
Geoff Barrett (Olives-Market Stall trader)
Trevor Richards (Corner House)
James Brinsford (Finger Print & Design)
Alex Ferris (Castle Furnishings)
Dominic Mercer (Sabins)
Ian Pollard (Sherborne Castle Estates)
Margaret Balfour (Margaret Balfour Beauty Centre)
Sally Westlotorn (Hon. Sec.)

1. Apologies: Linda Woods (Sherborne Abbey)

Peter Maronge (Sherborne Photographic)

Karen Finch (Per Te)

Cllr. Sue Moody (Sherborne Girls School)

2. Minutes of 2 April 2007 AGM meeting: (4) - Chair's report - Alan Blaze should read Chris Blaze otherwise the minutes were signed as a true & correct record.

3. Matters arising: there were none.

4. Chair's Report (Jan Pearce): Jan thanked everyone for their help during her three years as COT Chair. Victor then gave Acting - Chairman's report because both Committee Members are resigning.

A copy of Acting-Chairman's report is available from Sally Westlotorn.

5. Treasurer's Report (Tony McDermott): Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2007 were accepted.

A copy of Treasurer's report is available from Tony McDermott.

6. Election of Officers 2008/2009:

- **Chair** - No nomination
- **Vice - Chair** - No nomination
- **President** - Thelma Drabik
Proposed - Victor Clark
Seconded - Margaret Balfour
Accepted
- **Treasurer** - Tony McDermott
Proposed - Thelma Drabik
Seconded - Jan Pearce
Accepted
- **Hon. Secretary** - Sally Westlotorn
Proposed - Victor Clark
Seconded - Jan Pearce
Accepted.

7. Any Other Business:

Thelma outlined the Chair/Vice-Chair's roles - **copy available from Sally W.**

The following are observations made by Members on the way forward for Sherborne COT.

Membership card (Joanne Myram)

- has value
- discount
- 'health check' for a free hour with COT accountant/solicitor etc for instance
- can use local trade/business
- shows being part of a group

Chairman (Tony McDermott)

- focal point
- appoint a co-ordinator - paid an honorarium
- volunteer - retired with business experience
- through an advert

Members' comments:

- split tasks into chunks e.g. Christmas trees - a group of people - 10 contacts each - work out geographical location to cover all of town
- breakdown list of tasks - circulate - ask for volunteers
- need a list of tasks & time taken for each
- attempt to entice more Members to meetings
- analyse roles in COT - someone else can manage hanging baskets/Christmas Trees for instance
- a need to protect businesses in the area
- meetings need a purpose/ achieve something at the end of meetings
- monthly meetings for committee/quarterly for whole Chamber
- a Town Centre Co-ordinator - as Franchesca Dening was for Sherborne 2000 (since dissolved to become Sherborne Area Partnership)
- lunch time meetings
- where? Paul King kindly offered that COT could meet upstairs in The Three Wishes as of old!
- one or two people to be tasked to look at how our COT goes forward
- Yeovil COT have a Committee & Sub- committees/ Committee organises events - eg Yeovil/Dorset COT lunch at The Eastbury Hotel - 23 April 2008

ACTION (the only one apart from election of committee!): Thelma Drabik, Tony McDermott, Brian King, Lizzie Kingsbury, Liz Burt, Margaret Balfour, Joanne Myram & Paul Arthur to meet about the way forward. Thelma Drabik to convene.

8. There was no Ordinary COT meeting on 12 May 2008.