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AGENDA

**1. Attendance**

**Apologies:** Jackie Stockman, Brixham Town Council, Elizabeth Pippett, Jacqui Shaw, alex F, Chris Slack

**Invited:** David Giles and Jackie Stockman, Brixham Town Council

**Attendees:** M Green, Chair MG  
M Crabtree, Treasurer MC  
S Bower, Recording minutes SB  
C Slack, Arts & Craft Market CS  
L. Peets, Membership LP  
Alex Foley, Hospitality AF  
Nigel Makin, Town Centre Regeneration NM  
Ian Didlick, Sunday Markets ID  
Jacqui Shaw, Liaison JS

**2. Meeting notes – agreed**

**3. Request for Funding for Hanging Baskets in Middle Street**

Quoting:

*'...although we don't have to pay for the tubs until May, Mary from Pride In Brixham has to order them now so that they can be nursed and ready in time.*

*Middle Street traders are saving up with cans and donations but we won't know how much we will have until May. We are putting in for a grant from Brixham Town Council but we won't know the result of that for another month.*

*I feel that even if we can re-plant half as many tubs it would still make a colourful display into Brixham. Mary has got the price down and if we had 15 instead of 25 it would cost £540 including VAT. We could then run some bunting along to fill in the gaps and hopefully some at the beginning and end of the street. This all costs money of course.*

*I am trying to sort it without the Chamber's help this year, but it would be nice to know that you could perhaps help with up to £250 in case we need it. The more we can receive of course the better display we can make.'*

The application was successful with Brixham Town Council but Chamber funding also agreed.

**4. Devon Chamber Event**

Quoting (From Nick Byrne, [Nick.Byrne@devonchamber.co.uk](mailto:Nick.Byrne@devonchamber.co.uk)):

*'The event which I have been communicating with Frank is a Meet the Chamber event. Meet the Chamber is a post work (17:30 – 19:00) event, that is free of charge for all to attend. Its primary function is to allow the host business to showcase and develop its relationships with both key local and county businesses and offer a strong networking opportunity for all attendees. It is open for all members and non-members of the two Chambers, who can book a place via the Devon Chamber Website. But it also updates the current members of activities and projects that are being undertaken, via speaking opportunities by both Chambers and the host venue.*

*Via email, Frank had confirmed last week that a preferred date for him to host such an event would be on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> July. All apologies for not informing you and the Chamber about the potential date last week, but unfortunately due to restrictions on time during the latter part of the week, I did not have the opportunity to pass on any details to you about the potential date and event until today.*

*It would be great to have a strong presence both in delegates and dual branding from Brixham Chamber at this type of event, so as to further strengthen the ties between the two.*

*Please do let me know if Franks proposed date clashes with any plans from the Brixham Chamber or indeed if you have any questions or queries about Meet the Chamber, ahead of your executive committee meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> April.'*

**Action:** MG to clarify what is happening at meeting and confirm that we can attend and participate.

#### 4. Executive Updates:

\* Membership – LP chasing re subscriptions, some people are doing standing order. – Query received from Melville that some guest houses who were chamber members weren't asked to be involved in The Brixham Map, MG explained that we weren't involved from the beginning and that in the future we would ensure everyone had equal opportunity to participate. MG to speak privately to Gordon Gout. NM asked how can we motivate more members to attend meetings. SB suggested we send out email to remind meeting is on. MC said yes we could do that SB asked is there too many speakers? Do people think it will be too long? DG suggested a central theme could be a good idea.

**Action:** An email reminding members of next meeting to be sent out. MS to send text to LP for content.. Speakers at next meeting to be Matt - tax SB – trail and NM to take the officer spot and talk about town centre regen and possibly one other. Next meeting – 23<sup>rd</sup> May

5. Tourism Show and Hospitality - good feedback, all guides gone. Positive feedback about Brixham. Need more market leaflets A reminder to CS to coordinate this

6. Urban regeneration NM IC and DG attended Torbay Council Meeting where town centre regeneration was on agenda – Councillor Haddock is the lead. It was suggested that TQY and PTN were critical and Brixham less so. Team being put together led by Pat Stewart from TDA. There is a pot of money available from council for investing in town centres. It feels v important to NM that as a town we are pushing ourselves forward and advocate for Brixham to have money spent here. MG suggested a coordinated approach needed between town and harbour authorities. NM asked Where is our town centre? Answer – this Complicated in Brixham. Potentially money will be available around infrastructure: eg; working with a developer on town centre/making some funds available for ground works/ decontamination but this is just a hypothetical! NM has produced a proposal for high street regeneration and a proposed committee including chamber, council,

Brixham Futures, Torbay Council, Kevin Mowatt etc. Town Centre was mooted, A brochure needed to market town centre to potential investors and in coming businesses. Involve stakeholders. Tesco as a catalyst is proposed by NM – when document is produced by NM Tesco will be approached. Team effort required – council and chamber and brix futures etc. positives that we are an all year round working town. Oxen Cove is potentially going over to fishing development and needs to be considered in regeneration plan. Catalyst for change could also be a new multi-story for Brixham – short term plan must involve filling shops, long term plan – more in depth town centre regeneration. At council meeting it was proposed by Torbay Council that they would be prepared to deal with a decontamination of car park ground to lure a developer.

7. Markets – extra measures needed to bring in traders. ID has been going to N Bovey market, advertising further afield is an option as is canvassing other markets which ID is looking at. MG proposed contacting National Markets Federation and we could possibly place an advert in their publication. ID thinks we need to have a foundation of events and there are some Sundays when the market has to move i.e pirates/Pentecost. Bovey run a regular Nourish market which cannot be moved. SB asked do we tip toe around the traders? Are we always at odds with some traders? Does the market really stop shoppers using shops or should the shops be responsible for exploiting the markets and attracting trade? Martyn proposes asking on Pentecost w/e June 4<sup>th</sup> if the Sunday market can go under Old Fishquay as a one off

**Action:)** ID to approach Dave Bartlett and ask for move on Pentecost Sunday. English Riviera website still has old info for Brixham up so ID will address this. SB suggests airblade banners at bottom of Fore St to signpost markets. It was asked what value for money do members receive? Could there be a Brixham Chamber stall which could be a pop up shop available for members at each monthly market? We would cover insurance. Proposal to put in newsletter and see if there are any takers

**Action:** ID to take photos at Brixfest market and ID and SB to submit a press release to send to HE first week in June.

8. Next newsletter. At the moment, it's looking like:

- Parking & parking petition
- Accommodation overview - story about hotels/b&bs and investment in town.
- Activities love Brixham web
- Gazebo idea
- Marine Conservation Day
- Award for South Devon Players
- Chamber at the Tourism Exhibition and key points from conference
- Events & Festival Boards
- TDA Business Barometer
- <http://www.brixhamnews.com/news/brixham-named-in-top-3-emerging-hotspots-for-easter-getaways-by-leading-uk-travel-site/>
- Chamber seeks secretary - description of role

8. Any Other Business

Brixfest Market – Proposal from CS to continue our normal practice of donating the market stall funds to Brixfest. - Agreed

DG announced BTC have engaged a lengthsman starting in next few weeks. Grass cutting, dog foul collection, tidying town etc.

Number 67 bus route – DG asked CDT to engage with shops/businesses to look for a way to resurrect the service.

**The 2017 Torbay Air Show is being held over the weekend of 3-4<sup>th</sup> June, based at Paignton Green.**

**Date of next meetings:**

Executive Meeting: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Millie and Me, 6.00 pm

General Meeting: 23rd May, 2017, The Berry Head Hotel, 7.00 pm