



## MINUTES

GENERAL Meeting

10<sup>TH</sup> June 2014

The Berry Head Hotel

1900-2100hrs

### 1. Apologies

Dee McDowell  
Eddie Bence  
Sean Hubbard  
Brian Pearce  
Gordon Gout  
Rhys Heavens

### Executive Attendees

Keith Williams **KW**  
Pauline Neal **PN**  
Mike Franchi **MF**  
Angela George **AG**  
Christine Jaffa **CJ**  
Jacqui Shaw **JCS**  
Nigel Makin **NM**  
Nigel James **NM**

### Over 35 Chamber Members in attendance

### Council Representatives

Councillors Chris Lomax, Jackie Stockman, Mike Morey

### 2. Welcome new members and Guests:

Torbay Councillor, Robert Excell, Executive Lead for Safer Communities  
Kevin Atkinson, Executive Head of Regeneration TDA

### Kevin Atkinson –Public meeting feedback and update

Provided feedback following the recent public meeting to discuss the future of the Central Car Park development following the sudden withdrawal of Tesco.

The reasons Tesco gave for pulling out were explained

- Flawed business model- losing customer loyalty
- Online competition
- Multi-story car park developments were not as profitable

There was a vote taken at that Public meeting to assess if those in attendance were in favour of a supermarket development and there was a majority who voted in favour provided the new build was on a smaller scale to the proposed Tesco model.

- Currently there are 4 supermarket chains showing an interest.

- EU Procurement rules are rigidly applied and if supermarket is interested then TDA will continue using the same procurement route.
- Tesco may assign lease to Allbourne developers.
- TDA have 3 months to investigate interest.

Much discussion followed, including car parking and opposition to supermarket development.

**It was agreed that KA would feed back to the Chamber when there was more information regarding the outcome of discussions.**

### **Robert Excel – Car Parking -Torbay Council**

Councillor Excel had agreed to meet the group to discuss issues with new car parking fees and lack of car parking spaces.

- RE is responsible for car parking within Torbay and can only advise and recommend car parking strategy and initiatives the overall decision is made by the Mayor.
- The Council books have to achieve balance.
- RE had developed a list of proposed price options, 4 in total to put before the Mayor.
- His preferred was Option 2 ,a simple price system. The Mayor chose to implement Option 3, see back page attachment.

There followed much discussion amongst the members.

- **£50 car park permit** is available that provides free parking between 15:00hrs and 10:00hrs in any Council car park.
- This permit is very useful for shopping and banking in Brixham after 1500hrs.
- The members present felt that as there is a lack of awareness about the £50 permit scheme there should be initiatives in place to raise local awareness.
- It was suggested that leaflets could be handed out in car parks by traffic/parking enforcers informing of the scheme.
- Churston Farm shop noticed a marked increase of visitor numbers once the summer Brixham car park charges had been increased.
- Councillor Excel is looking for support from the Chamber membership to work together and lobby for fair car parking charges.
- Members also suggested that a “pay on exit” car park would be welcomed and enable shoppers to shop longer if desired.
- There are other areas, eg Watermark centre Ivybridge, that provide the first hour parking free. A ticket machine dispenses a ticket which enables visitor and demand/ capacity numbers to still be monitored. After the first hour then payment is needed.
- It was felt that currently visitors are not made to feel welcome by the high cost of parking.
- Sunday Market parking- if classed as an event then reduced parking tariffs would be considered
- Double Yellow lines. If there are any yellow lines that are not necessary it is then we are to inform RE to have them removed.
- Chamber Car Parking working group – to link in with existing Council groups and attend the various meetings. **Action KW**

### **3. Last Meeting Minutes**

Approved

### **4. Executive Members updates**

#### **Retail Working Group- NM**

NM suggested that Brixham had become used to accepting second best

- There are issues with aesthetics and premises and streets looking shabby
- Rubbish bins emptying and cardboard recycling issues need to be addressed
- Streets pavements and shopfronts are weed infested.
- This was discussed and JS has contacted council and due to budget cuts the teams have been reduced and Brixham is not on the rota for several months.
- There is a "Community payback" scheme that other areas have used for a small fee which might be worth exploring.
- There was a general feeling amongst those present that it might be in the shop-owner's best interests to take more responsibility for sweeping and clearing the frontage of their retail premises.

The working group representatives are Christine Jaffa , Serena Jury, Ron Campion, Mark Boyce, Samantha Moore and Keith Williams.

- One of the first initiatives of the working group is to produce a survey that will provide an understanding of retail issues e.g where people shop and what retailers they would like to see in the town.
- Peter Hawes raised the problem of antisocial behaviour which is a common occurrence in Fore St , if any people are seen to be misbehaving or behaving inappropriately then contact 101 and report as Brixham community policing has been reduced and reporting such incidences will help support and build a case of need.

#### **Membership JCS**

- 90 businesses are now members
- Members discount cards are being distributed to all members and their employees over 400 in circulation

#### **Treasurer update JCS**

JCS presented the latest finance figures.

- Saturday Market fund was in deficit and the intention is to reduce this deficit over the next couple of months. Funding for community projects will be on hold or reduced for the time being.

JCS – had been challenged by member of the Chamber about the appropriateness of using Chamber monies to provide a free drink to all Chamber Members after the General Meeting had finished.

- JCS recognised that she alone had made this decision and her intention had been to promote and encourage Chamber members to stop for a chat after the meeting had finished.

- The Berry Head Hotel do not charge the Chamber for the meeting room and encouraging members to use the bar facilities this is a way of helping recompense the Berry Head.
- JCS asked those members in attendance to vote if they wanted the free drinks for members to continue. There was an overwhelming majority in favour.

#### **Hoteliers – EB (unable to attend)**

Vicky Pritchard Davis, Quayside Hotel updated the members. The Quayside had a busy May but June has been slow to start, although there are several TV crews now staying.

#### **Media /Website MF**

MF gave an insight into the types and numbers of businesses within our population. There are over 420 businesses on the mailing list, which is still short of the potential numbers of local businesses within our population.

The membership numbers are growing and as such the makeup of sectors representation is altering. Retail representation is down to 31% of the overall membership. Marine is very under-represented at 2%. The aim is to achieve a more balanced Chamber with all sectors represented.

#### **Marketing AG**

AG continues to produce and submit articles with a focus on good business /retail news stories featuring local Brixham businesses

It may be relevant to have a feature on the Chamber's 90th anniversary now that membership has reached 90 plus.

#### **Sunday Markets JC**

This month saw a reduced number of stallholders due to the Outdoor church service in Fore Street. But many people did not realise Brixham had a Sunday market.

Many visitors had commented on the lack of a fish stall.

JC asked the members present for volunteers to come forward to help "Meet and Greet" the Stallholders. Chloe-Anne Eccles, from the Queens Arms, kindly volunteered to help.

#### **Events /Social- PN**

PN has stepped in to take over from KH who has resigned from the executive committee for personal reasons.

- Brixham Means Business Network has organised a Summer BBQ and Quiz night. It has been agreed that this event is also open for Brixham Chamber members to attend.
- BBQ date Friday 25<sup>TH</sup> July 18:30hrs Venue: The Berry Head Hotel. Please contact Pauline Neal for more details and tickets .

## 5. Town Council Report –JS

**Neighbourhood plan** – JS need more people to contribute to this important piece of work.

**Neighbourhood Meeting:** 25<sup>th</sup> June Function Room Town Hall details on Town Council website.

## 6. AOB

### Brixham Chamber Member Awards

**KW** - recognised all the hard work that the Executive and Chamber members undertake on behalf of the Chamber and its members. There are several members that had made a significant difference over the last few months and as such were given a Chamber Member Award .

### Brixham Chamber Award recipients were:

**Mike Franchi** – for all his hardwork with the media communications and Chamber website

**Jo Choppin** – for her management \_\_\_\_\_ and growth of the Sunday Market \_\_\_\_\_

**Christine Jaffa** – for her recruitment of new Chamber members

**Meeting closed at 21:10hrs**

### Next meeting

**Executive meeting 1815hrs-2000hrs Venue Queens Arms Brixham**

## Appendix1 Car Parking Review Price Options

	<b>Option 1</b>		<b>Option 2</b>		
Town Centre	1hour	£1.00	Town Centre	Up to 2 hours	£2.00

	Up to 3 hours	£2.00
	Over 3 hours up to Midnight	£4.00
Short Stay	30 mins	50p
	Up to 3 hours	£2.00
Beach	Up to 3 hours	£3.00
	Over 3 hours up to midnight	£5.00
<b>Overnight</b>		

	Up to 4 hours	£4.00
	24 hours	£6.00
Short Stay	30 mins	50p
	Up to 3 hours	£2.00
	*Over 3 hours up to Midnight	£5.00
Beach	Up to 1 hour	£1.00
	Up to 4 hours	£4.00
	24 hours	£8.00
<b>Overnight</b>		£2.20

<b>Option 3</b>		
Town Centre	1 hour	£1.30
	Up to 1.5 hours	£1.80
	Up to 2 hours	£2.30
	Up to 3 hours	£3.30
	Up to 4 hours	£4.00
	Up to 5 hours	£5.00
	Up to 24 hours	£8.00
Short Stay	Up to 30 mins	70p
	Up to an hour	£1.30
	Up to 1.5 hours	£1.80
	Up to 2 hours	£2.30
	Up to 3 hours	£3.30
	Up to 4 hours	£4.00
	Up to 5 hours	£5.00
	Up to 24 Hours	£8.00
Beach	Up to an hour	£1.50
	Up to 1.5 hours	£2.00
	Up to 2 hours	£2.50
	Up to 3 hours	£4.00
	Up to 4 hours	£4.50
	Up to 5 hours	£5.50
	Over 5 hours up to midnight	£8.00
<b>Overnight</b>		£2.20

<b>(Option 4)</b>		
	1 hour	£1.50
	Up to 1.5 hours	£2.00
	Up to 2 hours	£2.50
	Up to 3 hours	£3.30
	Up to 5 hours	£5.00
	Up to 24 Hours	£8.00
	Up to 30 mins	80p
	Up to an hour	£1.50
	Up to 1.5 hours	£2.00
	Up to 2 hours	£2.50
	Up to 3 hours	£4.00
	Up to 4 hours	£5.50
	Up to 5 hours	£6.00
	Up to 24 Hours	£8.00
Beach	Up to 1 hour	£1.70
	Up to 4 hours	£4.50
	Up to 5 hours	£6.00
	Over 5 hours up to midnight	£10.00
<b>Overnight</b>		£2.20

\* NB there is no all day charge in Brixham Central, Great Western in Paignton, the Shoppers (small car park by Hop and Grapes) in Torquay

