



**Cranleigh Chamber of Commerce**

**Annual General Meeting Tuesday 19 April at 7pm**

**Cranleigh Golf and Country Club**

**MINUTES**

**1. Attendees**

- These are listed at the end of the paper. The meeting was quorate.

**2. Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting**

- The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2015 were adopted as a correct record of the proceedings.

Proposer: Bob Bayley

Seconder: Guy Sansom

**3. President's Report**

'We set an ambitious target to grow membership from the 60 we inherited to 100 and I am pleased to report that we now have a membership of over 120. To help do this we revised the fees, removed the historic joining fee and simplified the annual membership subscription, starting at £50 a year for businesses with up to 5 employees, which is tremendous value.

We quickly launched a new Chamber website of which we are very proud, it is the 'one stop shop' for all things Chamber. We held seven breakfast meetings with diverse and pertinent topics including: getting business from Social Media, building a successful media profile, and delivering better customer service. Our social event in the summer was a BBQ held at the Richard Onslow when Chamber members also raised £260 towards the Christmas Lights.

We have led a project for Waverley Borough Council to adopt a new and highly flexible way of paying for car parking at both High Street car parks. The ability to pay on exit will alleviate the time pressure placed on visitors to the High Street, Medical Practice and Leisure Centre.

We submitted a successful objection to the outline planning application for replacement of light industrial capacity with housing at Hewitt's Industrial Estate, we will continue to push to preserve and grow the allocation of employment land in Cranleigh. The Chamber successfully lobbied O2 and Vodafone to improve mobile phone coverage in Cranleigh, with the introduction of 4G high speed mobile Internet.

We have taken responsibility for the Cranleigh in Bloom initiative. We hosted a meeting for Chamber members with our local MP, Anne Milton, with Anne answering questions from the audience on a wide range of subjects affecting business and the community.

Assurances were obtained directly from Thames Water that a future upgrade to the water main in Cranleigh would not result in disruption to the High Street.

In October we hosted the inaugural Cranleigh Food & Music Festival in partnership with Cranleigh Arts Centre, raising over £1,000 for their Target 25 Campaign. We built on the hard work of previous Chamber committees by continuing to organise the Cranleigh Christmas Lights and Switch-On Event, with special guest Kenney Jones and a packed programme of live entertainment throughout the evening.

One of our biggest and most successful initiatives was the inaugural Cranleigh & District Business, Innovation and Growth (BIG) Awards 2016, awarding prizes of £4,000 to the winner and runner-up and hosting a fully booked awards evening at Cranleigh Arts Centre.

We organized a presentation, kindly hosted by Dunsfold Park for Chamber members to hear about their plans for development of the aerodrome. We held a networking event for International Women's Day, with a panel of speakers representing women in different stages of business growth. We have just launched 'Up Your Game!' a village-wide customer service initiative with the support of Waverley Borough Council and Surrey County Council.

And finally, we have generated more than 40 press articles and comments thereby increasing our profile and allowing the 'business voice' to be heard.

The coming year sees us keen to reach a membership total of 150 and we'll be building on our key events: Cranleigh in Bloom, the Food & Music Festival, the BIG Awards and the Christmas Lights Switch on and there is already an exciting list of networking events in place for 2016.

We will continue to work in any way we can to support and promote business in Cranleigh, and to ensure we do all we can to support our community. We have had the privilege of working with our local councils, councillors, community groups and charities and we thank them all for their help and support. In particular, I thank Alan Young of Surrey County Council and the Cranleigh Arts Centre team.

None of this happens without the hard work and dedication of the Committee and, on behalf of the membership, I must thank them for their phenomenal input.'

#### **4. Resolution One**

- A resolution to change the name of the organisation from 'Cranleigh & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce' to 'Cranleigh Chamber of Commerce' was approved with a show of hands.

Proposer: Julie Alexanderson

Seconder: John Taylor

#### **5. Resolution Two**

- A resolution to form a Company, limited by Guarantee, called Cranleigh Chamber of Commerce, with the committee members becoming directors of said company, and the company adopting the business and duties of Cranleigh & District Chamber of Trade & Commerce was approved with a show of hands.

Proposer: Hamish Robbie: Seconder: Abi Truelove

## 6. Treasurer's Report

- The Treasurer's Report was received with a show of hands

Proposer: Guy Sansom Seconder: Julie Alexanderson

- The Annual Accounts were adopted with a show of hands.

Proposer: Mel Booth Seconder: Brian Cheeseman

- The Treasurer was reappointed with a show of hands.

Proposer: Paul Arding Seconder: Martin Bamford

## 7. Election of Officers

- The current President, Richard Graham, was re-elected with a show of hands.

Proposer: Lynn Murray Seconder: Hamish Robbie

- The current Vice President, Bob Bayley, was re-elected with a show of hands.

Proposer: Rosemary French Seconder: Edward Norman

## 8. Election of Committee

- David Smith, Roger Coupe, Martin Bamford, Guy Sansom, John Taylor, Julie Alexanderson, and Rosemary French were re-elected and Christine Martin was elected, with a show of hands.

Proposer: Wendy-Anne Harrison Seconder: Mel Booth

## 9. Any other business

- Bob Bayley thanked the Chairman for his leadership during the year.
- The Meeting closed at 7.30pm

### **MEMBERS PRESENT (24):**

Julie Alexandersen	Roger Coupe	Barbara Martin
Paul Arding	Rosemary French	Carol Morton
Martin Bamford	Kay Gibb	Edward Norman
Bob Bayley	Richard Graham	Hamish Robbie
Mel Booth	Daniel Jenking	Guy Sansom
James Britton	Wendy-Anne Harrison	Nigel Smith
Brian Cheesman	Bonnie Lai	John Taylor
Yvette Copping	David Martin	Abi Truelove

**End**