



Minutes of Committee Meeting

Wednesday 4th January 2023 at 5.45pm in Quay House, Kingsbridge

Chairman: James Spencer
Treasurer: Peter Richardson/ John Gardner
Secretary: Nicola Coulson
Marketing Manager: Kim Willis

1. Welcome & Apologies

PRESENT: James Spencer, Peter Richardson, John Gardner, Kim Willis, Nicola Coulson, Sarah Burnett, Alison Theaker, Scot Baston, Georgie Leonard
APOLOGIES: Catherine Gillen, Cllr Nikki Turton, Cllr Philip Cole, Cllr Mark Long, Cllr Rufus Gilbert

2. Minutes & Actions

Minutes from 7th December 22 approved, subject to two revisions:

- Remove Alison Theaker's initials from action with Kim Willis. *Done.*
- Chamber funds Salcombe lights, not Kingsbridge lights. *Amended.*

Actions outstanding:

Action #1: Sarah to reinforce importance of supporting the Chamber/local business community - to follow up with Amy in January plus Richard Harding from Gazette.	SB
Action #2: Chamber to promote Anthony Mangnall's visit to Kingsbridge traders in January. Committee agreed it's open to all, so agreed to publicise to members.	KW
Action #3: To publish Chamber minutes on The Green Room - January 2023	KW/NC
Action #4: Leadership team website update: To add John Gardner and Georgie Leonard - January 2023	NC
Action #5: KW to oversee Chamber website promotional content eg photos and generic wording	KW
Action #6: NEW Directory to be picked up later in quarter	JS

3. Council reports

No representatives in attendance.

4. Matters newly arising from committee members

SBa pointed out that the Modbury works have been postponed to 2024.

JS raised the question about how the Chamber can further support Modbury, and committee discussed the possibility of hosting a Chamber event at The White Hart in 2023, if we can negotiate a price.

PR asked whether we should still be ringfencing Modbury's funds. It had previously been agreed that if the subs from Modbury reached £800, their pot would be subsumed into Chamber funds. A discussion ensued about whether Modbury was heading towards forming a Traders' Association. PR noted the general reluctance from traders to join the Chamber but felt that the Chamber's remit is broader than a traders/retail association.

In summary, committee are keen to support Modbury and would like to host an event there to help strategically plan for the 2024 road closures.

Action #7: To look for opportunities to host a 2023 event in Modbury	All
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5. Member forums, general

Business Club - 9 February venue/speakers/early bird ideas

Theme: Staffing Shortage/Transport; short-term solutions/Housing; long-term solutions

The date is in Anthony Mangnall's ("AM") diary. A discussion ensued about how we make the most of his attendance.

JS reported to committee about a meeting they'd had in December. JS predicts the April budget - going to be more pro-SME, pro-growth.

AM's purpose is to ensure the business community is heard. He spoke of being PPS to Jeremy Hunt and those local issues with relevance at government level - housing, local transport and how to regulate holiday lets.

A discussion ensued about the format, and it was agreed that we trial a Question Time format, inviting members to submit questions in advance under the topic of **housing and transport as short term and ongoing solutions to the current staffing crisis**. PR pointed out that it needs to be very structured and kept to time.

JS and KW talked about extending the value of the speakers' involvement by producing a **podcast** which would allow us to drill down with the panel. AT was dubious about broadcasting beforehand, but JS confirmed that this slightly more in-depth discussion would be broadcast *after* the event.

A discussion ensued whether to have a panel, to construct a closer conversation. Committee discussed potential panellists to join AM for questions. AM had already mentioned **Don McIntosh, Tally Ho**, a great advocate for increasing local transport links. It was suggested that **Nicky Barclay and/or Nikki Turton, Community Land Trust**, could represent housing.

PR asked if we're going to let AM know in advance what subjects we're going to cover, and JS confirmed that AM would be comfortable discussing transport and housing.

JS suggested transport needs to be the 1st topic, then housing. KW concurred that we can only have a year-round economy if we improve transport links.

After discussing potential venues, PR proposed Thurlestone Hotel, with Thurlestone Golf Club as a contingency.

A discussion then ensued about the structure of the event, ticketing, and costs.

PR was keen to retain ample time for networking.

KW suggested charging non-members £5 to attend - SB agreed and suggested this charge should become permanent; SBa suggested we take a view on a venue-by-venue basis instead, so we can prioritise members.

PR felt strongly that we should still invite non-members to attend one free meeting, after which time they will be invited to join, although AT drew upon her experience of member organisations and pointed out that non-members often pay a premium.

JG pointed out that whilst we welcome non-members, members need to know that non-members aren't being favoured so suggested a non-members fee of £15 to attend - committee concurred.

KW asked if we should be charging non-members more to come for the meal?

A ticketing/payment structure for this event was agreed:

1. Members attend without meal
2. Members stay for meal
3. Non-members pay £15 - meal not an option

JG asked if it be beneficial to allow non-members to pay for the post-event meal - after all, there is value in the social aspect of membership?

JS asked KW when we can start marketing.

SBa pointed out that we need to get a menu out ASAP to encourage people to book.

Action #8: PR to liaise with Thurlestone Hotel and Golf Club	PR
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Action #9: Audio system needed for February event	NC
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Online Members Only platform 'THE GREEN ROOM' - update KW

Committee agreed that content will drive membership.

Whilst JS reiterated that when Green Room was launched, it was assumed it would be a "slow burn", agreed that we probably need a review date to see whether it's adding value. KW suggested reviewing at end of March.

AT asked about objectives for starting Green Room. Principle was a members-only platform to promote networking and information sharing outside of meetings.

AT asked how newsletters go out as neither nor SB were receiving them. KW confirmed they were both on the mailing list but committed to check.

6. Treasurer's update - PR

Current cash position:

Bank: current account: -	£13,177.66
Includes Modbury Funds	(£4,950.13)
Kingsbridge Traders	(£5,000.00)
TOTAL: -	£6,395.20

PR pointed out that there were outstanding creditors which he estimated at approx. £3k, so the above total should be halved. PR has drawn up initial budget - JS, PR, and JG to get together to discuss.

It is very disappointing that despite our secretary's efforts 7 out of date standing orders were received this month from current members.

A budget for 2023 will be drawn up for the next committee meeting

PR confirmed that subs income for 2022 was just over 10k and estimated an additional £1k subs in 2023.

A discussion ensued about Ignite - current position doesn't leave a lot of room to offer Ignite grants in 2023, though in principle, there was enthusiasm for Ignite, to show support for starts up and help as many businesses as possible.

PR wanted to raise the following points:

1. We mustn't lose sight that we have a unique forum, and we are very grateful to County and Town Councillors for attending our meetings as we benefit enormously from their attendance.

PR would like to see that minutes from meetings are sent to Salcombe and Kingsbridge Information Centres, so it was agreed that Jane Tyler and Dawn Blundell to be sent minutes and continue to be invited to meetings.
2. Pre Covid, we talked about the idea of incorporating climate change into every discussion we have. PR feels that whatever we do, we must consider the environmental impact.
3. Business Clubs: Every meeting need something formal to hang it on, but we shouldn't underestimate the importance of hosted introductions and informal chat/networking.

Action #10: Budget proposed for 2023 is presented to committee at February meeting	PR
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Action #11: Discussion on future of Ignite future - Treasurer to lead	JG
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9. AOB

JS raised the point that we have too few businesses on committee, so asked committee to consider any contacts in sectors that aren't represented already that might be interested in joining.

SB requested it's put on the Agenda for February meeting.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 1st February 2023
