

Skipton Chamber of Trade & Commerce

MINUTES OF MEMBERS MEETING

DATE: 28th November 2013

VENUE: Rendezvous Hotel @ 8.00am



PRESENT: **Executive:** Vice President: Amanda Casey (Rendezvous Hotel), Dave Parker (STC), Paul Mason (Pearson Associates)
Secretary: Lesley Haworth
Members: Brett Butler (STC), Hazel Maxfield (C H Brown), April Chamberlain (AWB Charlesworth), Chris McGrath (Wonder in Wood), Rachael Berry (Newton Grange), Victoria Whitehead (Tyro Training), Adam Dutton (The Shepherd Partnership), Malcolm Weaving (Rendezvous Hotel), Chris McGrath (Wonder in Wood), Liz Preston (Craven Safety Services), Liz Smith (Nat West Bank), Chloe Greenwood (Manifest Marketing), Gillian Venning (The Coniston Hotel & Country Estate), Andrew Vaux (AKA PR)
Guest Speaker: Sgt. Paul Evans (BCRP)

APOLOGIES: Treasurer: Billy Moffat (Reid Moffat & Co Ltd), Emma Marsden (Craven Court Shopping Centre), Chris Hill (Skipton Wellness Centre), Joanne Metcalfe (Cancer Research UK), Simon George (Bluefin Insurance), Lyn Creasey (LYNC HR)

Meeting opened at 7.55am:

As the chair person for this meeting, Amanda Casey welcomed everyone to the Rendezvous Hotel.

Adoption of the Minutes of the last members meeting held on 29th October 2013 at Herriots Hotel
Proposed by Brett Butler and 2nd by Dave Parker

Amanda welcomed Sgt. Paul Evans as the guest speaker for this meeting:

Sgt. Paul Evans spoke about the new BCRP (Business Crime Prevention Partnership) to members that the Police are to introduce into Skipton early in the New Year.

He pointed out that Craven was the 7th most peaceful place in the world, the 3rd best place to live, 2nd safest place for domestic burglary and therefore a most desirable area for new businesses, new residents and visitors.

The BCRP will be set up to encompass the already successful 'Shop Watch' which deals effectively with shoplifters and STAND – the pub watch scheme which has already led to 63 bans and 17 lifetime bans. The new radio link is desperately needed to give all users a faster means of communication to get the word out and about the town to stop trouble makers, criminals and problem customers moving between premises. Skipton BID has offered possible funding and funding from NY Police has been approved for £2000 to buy new radios. This will allow the rent to be put back into the scheme rather than into the pockets of the suppliers, as currently happens. (Cost of phones at the moment is £20per month with £15 going back to Apex).

Malcolm Weaving of Rendezvous Hotel asked if there were any instructions for licensees to follow on how to deal with troublemakers, criminals and how to move them out of the premises without repercussions. Paul said that all licensees should introduce their own policy and procedures for dealing with unwanted guests. The new scheme would alert the local Police who could respond and deal with any problem customers much quicker. They ask that when you do move on any customers please use the radios to warn other businesses with as much detail as possible. Chris McGrath asked how many shops were already on the Shop Watch scheme and how the new scheme would be coordinated. Paul replied that were 23 shops using the current system but unfortunately not everyone switched on first thing. The new CRP would encourage better use of the radios, improve communication and support to businesses.

As Skipton does not have a CCTV system it invites criminals from out of town – West Yorkshire, Lancashire and sometimes further afield. There have already been 117 violent crimes in Skipton this year and recently an armed robbery which due to Shop Watch saw the perpetrator caught and behind bars within 30mins.



BCRP will give businesses the chance to have total ownership and control of crime reduction in Skipton and will improve communication and support from the Police. It will reduce the amount of criminals that come to Skipton and make the town an even safer place. Brett Butler (Town Manager) said that once the scheme is in place he could apply for a Green Flag which will prove that Skipton has a high safety record. Another accolade for Skipton! Brett said they had recently visited Chester, who already have a successful scheme, and said that they are prepared to offer support and guidance to set up the Skipton BCRP. It is important for Skipton businesses to support the CRP and it is in the best interest of the town to get this scheme running as soon as possible. The timescale for this will be 3-4 months. Their website will keep all businesses up to date with the latest scams, criminal activity and useful information. For any further information at this time please contact the Chamber office or contact:

PS Paul Evans | Collar No. 1006 | Beat Manager Sgt | Skipton Safer Neighbourhood Team | NYPolice
Twitter: @Skipton_police | Facebook: Skipton Safer Neighbourhood Team | Useful Website Links:
[Chester Against Business Crime](#). Bob Lelliott and his team have helped BCRP a great deal and the scheme in Chester is the sort of thing they are looking at for Skipton - www.chesterabc.co.uk

Check out <http://www.littoralis.com/> - there is a very useful video on the link.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION:

Coach Parking Update:

Further to the CDC policy committee meeting last week it has been agreed that no action will be taken at this time to make changes to the coach parking in Skipton. It is thought that they have listened to the comments from Chamber members and other businesses. There is a concern though that, as the new traffic wardens do not have any responsibility to assist with the coaches parking and dropping off, it is a bit of a free for all. CDC suggested that the town ambassadors might consider helping out until they can come up with a better solution.

Tour de France Update:

The Spectator Hub Committee is already busy coordinating with official organisers the plans for the run up to, the weekend of and the after event of the Tour de France.

The Chamber is to organise a public meeting at the Town Hall on Tuesday 28th January from 6pm, instead of its monthly members meeting, to give businesses a chance to find out more about how the Tour will affect the town. Chris McGrath asked how the Police will manage the massive influx of visitors on top of the events entourage, how people will be able to get in and out to work especially on the Saturday and how the increased traffic movement will be managed. All these questions will be addressed at the January meeting plus it will highlight the benefits rather than the problems created by this once in a lifetime event. The Chamber website will update any information as it becomes available.

New Website:

Now live the new site needs all members to check their entry in the Business Directory and send any changes needed to the Chamber secretary. Visit: www.skiptononline.co.uk. If you have any comments or constructive suggestions, please get in touch as soon as possible. We have lots still to do but it is work in progress. We are now active on twitter and facebook so please LIKE US!

Christmas Trees:

All trees have been erected and lit with the new lights from the BID the town looks very festive. Many thanks go to everyone who has supported this Chamber initiative again this year. The incentive to pay before the 28th November has been a great success with almost all trees paid for.

Town Guide 2014:

Due to the response from the last meeting the Town Guide will stay in its normal format. We have agreed to add four more pages to allow more editorial information to be included. Gemma Aldersley, of the Craven Herald, has already contacted last year's advertisers and some new businesses in town for inclusion into the new guide. If you have not been contacted and would like

to advertise in this popular guide, please contact Gemma on 01756 797791. It has been agreed that 50,000 copies be printed again and distribution will be discussed at the next members meeting.

New Members:

Applications for approval from:

Andrew Vaux of Alexander King Associates (AKA PR) on Chapel Hill - proposed approval by Brett Butler and seconded by Dave Parker.

Phil Bode of Bodental on Otley Street – proposed approval by Hazel Maxfield and seconded by Rachael Berry.

We welcomed Andrew to the meeting and hope to welcome Phil to a meeting soon.

Joint Christmas Dinner

Chamber, FSB members and guests are invited to attend the annual Christmas Dinner on the 17th December at Rendezvous Hotel from 7pm. Tickets are £16 per person to include a 2 course Festive Menu. Guest speakers are Nick & Gina Mead, Business Entrepreneurs and owners of the famous 'Lady Teal' floating hotel as seen on Look North and The Dales program with Ade Edmondson. Tickets available from Amanda Casey/Reception on 01756 700100 or call in at the reception at the Rendezvous Hotel.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Last year's event saw around 90 members and guests enjoying this popular evening. We will hold another raffle again this year to raise funds for the Chamber Pot and we ask that everyone bring a raffle prize with them.

Executive Team:

As the executive team has a couple of vacancies we are looking for new members to ensure a quorum at each meeting, Amanda asked at the meeting if anyone would be interested in offering their support. We are very pleased to welcome April Chamberlain of AWB Charlesworth, Liz Smith from Natwest Bank and Victoria Whitehead from Tyro Training onto the committee. If any other members are interested please get in touch.

Yuletide Festival:

Dave Parker said that the festival should be another success this year even though the weekends were changed. We are expecting approx. 100 coaches on the 8th & approx. 60 on the 15th December.

Finally Amanda emphasised the need for members to support Skipton BID and urged all businesses to vote Yes in the renewal, postal, vote in January. She reiterated the warning from Dave Wathen that if the vote was lost, then the current BID would end in March and hundreds of thousands of pounds of investment would disappear overnight. If you have any questions relating to the BID renewal please contact Roz Wathen, Administrator Skipton BID Ltd

7 Albert Street | Skipton | BD23 1JD | Tel: 01756 799033 | email: skiptonbidltd@btinternet.com

Business Spotlight: Liz Preston at Craven Safety Services

Liz, the Managing Director, is a Chartered member of the Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) and on the HSE OSHCR register for Health and Safety Consultants.

CSS is an established, independent Health and Safety Consultancy service covering North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire and Lancashire. They provide a professional service with a personal approach and offer flexible packages to suit every type and size of business. They pride themselves on delivering a top class service at competitive rates without compromising on the quality of service provided.

Liz offers members a free, no obligation, 30min visit to your business offering advice and guidance about all safety aspects. For more information or to book a visit contact Liz at

lizpreston@cravensafetyervices.co.uk or call 01756 790869/mobile 07903 887 978.

Meeting Closed:

8.55am

Date of next event:

Tuesday 17th December 2013 – Joint Christmas Dinner

Venue:

Rendezvous Hotel | Keighley Road | Skipton

Time:

7.00pm for 7.30pm meal



Guest Speakers:

Nick & Gina Mead - Business Entrepreneurs and owners of the famous '**Lady Teal**' floating hotel