

Minutes of AGM on Thursday 1st April 2010, held at the Farmhouse Pub

Present: Peter von Staerck, John Fisher, Fiona Stimpson, Clive Howick, Chris Sharville, Carol Jordan & Gary Whitworth

Apologies: Massetts Road Dental Centre, Seldons Locksmith Regent Hair, Ray Bateman, Horley Early Learning Partnership.

Minutes of last Meeting – it was agreed that the minutes of the last meeting and last year's AGM were a true record.

Matters Arising – last year Howard Redwood joined the Executive committee and was going to attend Neighbourhood Panel meetings and report back to our meetings; Howard has since left the Chamber.

Small Business Advisory Service – again last year Chris Sharville & David Page were going to look into setting up a Small Business Advisory Service. This needs to be put on to the Agenda so that it can be discussed at future meetings.

Membership – Peter reported that membership stands at 93. It was 97 in 2008.

Subscriptions – the new rate has now been applied to all subscriptions. Some membership monies are still due to be paid. For existing members it is now £40 for the year which is £3 per year cheaper than it was 5 years ago! New rates apply to joining members and Associations.

Chairman's Report for 2009/10 – attached separately

Treasurer's Report – John reported that the balance in the bank accounts at 31st December was £7349. Copies of the Accounts for year ended 31 December 2009 as well the Balance Sheet were made available to those attending the meeting. John explained that there was a net loss of £1370 which was due to the loss made on St George's Day last year as well as the repair to the marquee on the Big lunch when a strong gust of wind almost blew the marquee away and it was badly damaged and so had to be repaired at great expense which ate into any profit for the Big Lunch.

Election of Officers

These remain the same as last year as no other members offered themselves up for election so

Chairman: Peter v S – nominated by Fiona Stimpson & seconded by Carol Jordan

Vice Chairman: Clive Howick – nominated by PvS and seconded by John Fisher

Treasurer: John Fisher – nominated by Carol Jordan & seconded by Clive Howick. John reported that this will be his final year as he is retiring from Brambles next year and moving to Norfolk.

Secretary: Fiona Stimpson – nominated by Gary Whitworth and seconded by John Fisher

Executive Committee members – Carol Jordan, Chris Sharville, Ray Bateman

Lunch Co-coordinator: Stephen Shepperson – nominated by PvS & seconded by Fiona Stimpson

TCMG Representatives: PvS & Clive Howick

Horley Regeneration Group: PvS

The Rule Book – it was agreed at the AGM that the suggested changes could be implemented as members have failed to comment on the proposed changes despite being asked several times.

St George's Festival – Peter reported that he had booked Elizabeth Richardson (The Queen look-like) which is being sponsored by Regent Hair Salon, Chris White Butchers, L&C Installations and James Dean Estate Agents; The Queen's car will be supplied by DSM Executive Cars and Fiona agreed to accommodate her at Rosemead Guest House. There will be a Royal Pavilion and the public can pay £2 to have their photos taken with her. The Queen will take part in the parade and will knight St George!

Peter reported that The Mayors of Reigate & Banstead, Crawley & Horley will all be attending. He also reported that he had a Britannia, but no Lady Godiva and that St G would be on a horse of 19 hands!

Correspondence - none

Lunch Meetings – Peter thanked Stephen for arranging our luncheon speakers throughout the last year reminded everyone that there was a lunch on Wednesday 14th April at the Holiday Inn. The speaker would be Station Manager St.John Stanley of Horley/Gatwick Fire Station giving an illustrated talk on the Rescue Mission to Haiti in January after the earthquake. **UPDATE** this was a wonderful lunch as usual and the food abounded in our private dining room. The speech was astounding and so were the pictures on a full screen. It is a sad pity that more members do not attend the lunches, as they are economical and particularly informative.

AOB – Peter reported that he had sold 63 tickets for the St George's Quiz in the back room of the British Legion on Friday 23rd April is going ahead and that there were still places available. **UPDATE** 80 attended and we raised approx £400. The Fish & Chip supper was truly magnificent and bountiful, although the questions were about England, it was surprising how little we all knew! However many, many laughs and great 1st / 2nd / 3rd Prizes supplied by Howes solicitors. Thank you David (Howes)

Fiona reported that the Council had a talk from the Community Responders and the work that they do to save lives in the event of heart attacks, etc. They are looking for a grant to purchase a defibrillator for the Horley responders. Fiona suggested that we could do a Summer Fun Day. However Peter suggested that we could use the Big Lunch for this purpose and this would be discussed further after St George's Festival is over.

Next Meeting – Thursday 6th May at the Farmhouse Pub, at 18.00

The meeting closed at 19.10.