

**Minutes of the AGM
of the
Godalming & District Chamber of Commerce
held on
Monday 21 February 2022**

**at 6.00pm
in the
The Wyatt Room, Wilfrid Noyce Centre**

Present:

John Taylor (JT) – Cornmeter – President
 Matthew Pactat – Treasurer
 Julie Holland – Wild Learning
 Tom Enser – Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice
 Janet Taylor – Cornmeter
 Alison Daniels – Bookings secretary
 Greg Holden – Temple Wealth
 Kevin Depree – Godalming Food
 Stefan Reynolds – Vantage Point
 Tim Ostle (TO) – Charterhouse Enterprises
 Adam Boshoff – Seymours Estate Agents
 Matt Cadman – Lite Radio

John Lloyd – Blue Dot Display
 Tom Grillo – Grillo LLP
 Pam Talbot MBE – The Godalming Trust
 Colin Swait – The Godalming Trust
 Emma Murdoch – Big Blue Yacht Charters
 Andrew Bandosz – D & M Planning
 Matthew Farrant – Haines Watts
 Andy Jeffries – Godalming Town Council
 David Gray – David Gray Nice Move
 Peter Flew – Godalming Theatre Group
 Chris Aston – Neighbourhood High Street
 Specialist Police Officer

	<u>Minute</u>	<u>Actions</u>
	18:04 The President opened the meeting and invited the audience to introduce themselves.	
1. Apologies for Absence	Patsy Bell (Calico Curtains), Martine Robins (HR Dept), Victoria Evans (Downs Solicitors), Dawn Tippet (Boots Opticians), Michael Stubbs (Godalming Town Council), Penny Brown & Amanda Gore (Godalming Travel) and Elizabeth Campbell (GDCC Secretary)	
2. President's Welcome	The president welcomed members to the meeting	
3. Previous Minutes	The minutes of the 2021 AGM were approved	
4. Business Improvement District (BID)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andy Jeffery, Clerk to Godalming Town Council, (AJ) was invited to present an update on progress on the BID. • The scheme is designed to be led by local businesses, not the local authority. • The scheme designates an area within the primary business area of the town. • It is aimed at improving business opportunities in the town. • WBC funded initial research which established that Waverley borough is unusual requiring four BIDs for the four separate towns. • Cost to progress from concept to ballot stage of the BID process - £38,500. • Levy on business rates to fund the improvements identified within the BID process. • Level of levy is determined by the size of business rates chargeable on a business. Businesses with a RV below a specific value would be exempt from payment. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ went in to further detail on how the scheme works. • Projects must be baselined with the local authorities so that the authority cannot lump existing services on to the BID. • Godalming has the £38,500 funding through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £13,500 WBC • £13,500 GTC • Balance from Waitrose, Cornmeter, GDCC • Next stage is to appoint consultants to take the BID forward to the next consultation and costing stages. They will send a questionnaire to every business. • Information is available on the GTC website with minutes from the meeting of the 13 February 2022 • JT commented that there is still a long way to go <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern that WBC is trying to offload responsibility for providing services • AJ commented that WBC would also have to pay if they were within the BID area. WBC is in fact the largest ratepayer in Godalming. 	
5. Presentation from Surrey Police	Our High Street Specialist Police officer Chris Skillicorn- Aston (CSA) opened up discussion concerning community issues. CSA explained that the police work in partnership with other agencies to resolve issues and welcomes any interaction with the members of the Chamber. All crimes and incidents must be reported via 999/101 or online to ensure that matters are recorded, assessed and deployed to promptly and effectively. The assessment and deployment is on the basis of threat,harm and risk.	Members to inform the Committee of any issues that they wish to be raised with CSA.
6. Update on High Street	JT updated the meeting on latest businesses moving in to the High Street: Up market Pizza Mistral Cake and Patisserie Shooting Star Cosy Club (Barclays building) Marks & Spencer Food (M & Co building)	
7. Treasurer's Report	MP reported on the current finances, highlighting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discounted membership fees reflecting COVID • Little other revenue which would normally come from events such as the Food Festival • Costs have been controlled <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Limited expenses ○ Networking event held at Charterhouse in the summer <p>Deficit for the year £788.00</p> <p>Closing Cash Balance £12,871</p>	
8. President's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food festival will go ahead on 4th July • Networking events will restart this year with both lunch and evening events • JT and TO meet with WBC on a regular basis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ These have varying degrees of success <p>JT introduces Chris Aston Neighbourhood High Street Specialist Police Officer for Godalming</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His focus is to work with relevant partners on longer term, slow burning issues in the town • Do not use his personal police email address to report, use Surrey Police website/ Waverley Beat Facebook Messenger to contact in real time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crime in progress call 999 ○ Calls are graded on Threat, Harm Risk • CCTV type imagery is good evidence • Use personal police email address for information etc, events etc. • Does a lot of work with local education institutions. 	
9. Appointment of officers and committee members	<p>Following the nominations which were proposed and seconded the following were unanimously voted to serve for the following year:</p> <p>Officers: John Taylor – President Matthew Pactat – Treasurer Alison Daniels – Secretary</p> <p>Committee members: Kevin Depree – Standing Vice President Adam Boshoff Tim Ostle Stefan Reynolds Kate Wheeler</p>	If any other members would like to join the Committee they are most welcome to join us.
10. A presentation from Matt Cadman of Lite Radio	<p>Matt presented to the meeting on the Launch of Lite Radio</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eagle Radio no longer exists • Worked with Watford BID to launch new radio • Reintroduced and launched new station within Guildford on 7th December • Target market 35+ age group, middle road ABC1 demographic • DAB surrey multiplex channel/online at www.literadio.co.uk • Supports charities including the Fountain Centre • Advertising rates are very competitive • Principle Partnership advertising rates for 12 to 16 specific businesses with other benefits including one major event per year per partner 	
11. AOB	<p>Heritage Weekend in Godalming will be 17th and 18th September 2022.</p> <p>The Godalming Trust is also reinstating the guided Heritage walks on the second Saturday of the month from May to August</p>	