

**Minutes of the Full Chamber Meeting AGM  
of the  
Godalming & District Chamber of Commerce  
held on  
Tuesday 6 June 2023**

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

**Present:**

John Taylor (President)	Roger Coleman (Spinning Poodle games)
Alison Daniels (Secretary)	Stefan Reynolds (Vantage Point)
Adam Boshoff (Seymours Estate Agents)	Tim Ostle (Charterhouse Enterprises)
Samantha Jago (DMH Stallard LLP)	Janet Taylor (Cornmeter)
Helen Jackson (The Meath)	Jenna Hopkins & Boris Petrie (Downs Solicitors)
Laura Cavaliere (Face2face HR)	Pam Talbot (Godalming Trust)
Julie Holland (Wild learning)	Errol Bryce (Thyme for Tea)
Penny Brown & Amanda Gore (Godalming Travel Co)	Tim Henniker- Parker (TICA Photography)
Matthew Farrant (Haines Watts)	Peter Flew (Godalming Theatre Group)
John Guthrie (Hart Brown)	John Lloyd (Blue Dot Display)
Tom Enser (Phullis Tuckwell Hospice)	

	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Actions</b>
1. Apologies for Absence	Matthew Pactat (Treasurer) , Greg Holden (Temple Wealth) , Kevin Depree (Godalming Deli) , Patsy Bell (Calico Curtains), Martine Robins (HR Dept), Dawn Tippet (Boots Opticians), George Cooke (Surrey Translation Bureau)	
2. President's report	Update on High Street – 2 more coffee shops have opened – Café One & Esquire. Plan to have a Retailers Forum in September either at Waitrose Coffee Shop or Godalming Deli. Trying to get a speaker, possibly an expert in shop window dressing.. Mary Portas wanted £18K plus VAT plus overnight costs for a 30 minute presentation.	
3. Treasurer's Report	We now have 49 paid up members plus one pending application. We have just over £16K in the bank plus £9.3K earmarked for the Bid. We recently received £10K BID money from Godalming Town Council which was partly used on the BID website & newsletter £5,154, BID Project Management £3,396 & Printing £670. The Chamber's Income & Expenditure account currently shows a small surplus of £200 after paying Food Festival expenses of £708 in advance of the event on 2.7.23	
4. Food Festival & Classic Car Show 2.7.23	The Food Festival is being managed by Godalming Town Council. Lots of pitches sold in both the High Street & Church Street of which 99% are food stalls. The Classic Car Show has attracted 77 entrants from far and wide with a wide selection of vehicles. Phyllis Tuckwell will be making a bucket collection at the event. Next year may have a car treasure trail ending up at the Burys Field.	Tom Enser to drop off collection buckets to Cornmeter
5. Presentation by The Meath Epilepsy Charity	Helen Jackson gave us a detailed insight into what services The Meath provides to its 80 residents and its day clients. Most have complex needs and may be wheelchair bound and non verbal. The Meath has	

	<p>two houses which provide supported living accommodation to let the residents live as independently as possible.</p> <p>Their day centre is open to non epileptics with learning difficulties. Services provided include physio which helps maintain mobility and helps relieve pain, cookery classes, and health and well being classes. Stimulation improves physical being &amp; cognitive skills.</p> <p>Their skill centre includes specially adapted gym equipment, and an arts &amp; crafts section.</p> <p>Exhibitions of art work have been shown at Godalming railway station &amp; Cranleigh Arts Centre.</p> <p>Their residents are keen to be part of the Community. The Meath has been in Godalming for 130 years.</p> <p>There is a playgroup at The Meath and some residents read to children at the Octagon Room in Godalming Baptist Chapel.</p> <p>Please do not be afraid of seizures. The Meath go out to schools educating people of what to do if someone has a seizure. If you would like training please contact The Meath.</p> <p>9.9.23 There will be an outdoor cinema at The Meath where you can bring a picnic. Visit The Meath website for details.</p> <p>There may be an operatic event in 2024 to help raise more funds. The Meath needs to raise £20K per day to achieve a fulfilled life for the residents.</p> <p>Members were encouraged to join The Meath 100 Lottery for £5 per month. First prize £150 plus two second prizes of £50 each.</p> <p>There is an online shop where you can buy marmalade, chutney &amp; jams made by residents.</p> <p>The upcycling furniture Changing Perceptions has relocated from the High Street.</p> <p>Volunteers always welcome at The Meath eg a day's painting, help at an event etc</p> <p>Penny Rivers, Mayor of Waverley, is supporting The Meath and wants Godalming to be an epileptic friendly town.</p> <p>The building is grade 2 listed and The Meath needs to raise £500K for its maintenance fund.</p> <p>Please ask for a collection tin for your shop or office.</p>	
<p>6. Welcome to new member</p>	<p>Errol Bryce – Thyme for Tea – Church Street specialising in classic food.</p>	
<p>7. Update on BID</p>	<p>BID = Business Improvement District</p> <p>A scheme which provides funds for improving the High Street by High Street businesses paying a small levy on their business rates eg if there was a 2% levy approx. £180pa would be raised for Godalming. The Board of High Street businesses would decide how to spend this money eg Destination marketing, pay on exit car parks, financing CCTV etc</p> <p>There are 269 business in Godalming. So far 108 have signed up to the BID but there must be at least 51% for the BID to go ahead.</p> <p>Biggest disappointment is that Waitrose Godalming will not sign up whereas Waitrose has supported the BIDs in all other towns where it has a store.</p> <p>Consultation has been extended to October.</p>	
<p>8. Lunchtime networking</p>	<p>These events are attracting new member for the Chamber.</p> <p>Next events –</p> <p>9.6.23 Richmond Arms</p> <p>6.7.23 Evening event at Charterhouse Lawns (invites to follow)</p> <p>8.9.23 Lunchtime networking – venue TBA</p>	

<p>9. Presentation by Downs Solicitors on Intellectual Property – How might your business be affected</p>	<p>Boris Petri gave us a quick insight on this topic. Downs Solicitors has experience in contentious and non contentious Commercial and IP matters. IP can be in many forms eg copyright, trademarks, patents, domain names. Trade secrets and geographical indications (eg Parmesan cheese) Why is protecting IP important – it secures competitive advantages, facilitates access to financing and attracts investors and partners. Recent “famous” examples – Ed Sheeran, Percy Pig and Colin the Caterpillar Future issues will develop around AI. Who is deemed to be the creator or inventor of content produced by AI? Beware the use of Chat GPT . Please contact Boris if you require assistance with brand management &amp; protection, trademark registration, Trademark/copyright licencing, IP dispute resolution, passing off actions, confidentiality agreements or IP due diligence.</p>	
<p>10. AOB</p>	<p>The proposal to develop the Crown Court car park has finally been thrown out. The new council “listened” &amp; shelved the idea. Paul Followes lied and said that GDCC were in agreement with the original proposal but GDCC helped to raise 4,000 signatures on the petition opposing the proposal. Waverley &amp; Guildford Borough Councils to amalgamate onto one site, yet to be found, and will be sharing the cost of services . Planning applications for both boroughs will be under one umbrella within 18 months.  The meeting was closed at 19.03 and the members continued to network amongst themselves.</p>	
<p>Dates of next meetings</p>	<p>4.7.23 committee meeting at the Pepperpot 5.9.23 committee meeting at the Pepperpot 12.9.23 full members meeting at Wilfrid Noyce Centre 7.11.23 committee meeting at the Pepperpot</p>	