

Bromyard and District Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of AGM held on 5th December 2018, at the Falcon, Bromyard

David James welcomed all to the meeting.

Minutes of the last AGM held on 6th December were approved.

Chairman's Report - David James thanked all on the Committee for their support over the year. We have held meetings monthly rather than bi-monthly and the Chamber were delighted to welcome many interesting speakers during the year. We were pleased to be involved with the new Lighting Committee on the what turned out to be a very successful Christmas Lights 'Switch-On' Day

We have made our presence felt at both Bromyard Town Council and Hereford Council meetings, supporting local business and event organisers and charities, such as the British Legion and the Bromyard Speed Festival, with the later campaigning to get our road surfaces to a better standard.

Membership Secretary's Report – Sylvia reported that we had 43 members and she would be approaching the new businesses that had opened in the town. *(Sylvia sadly died in December and will be much missed for all her hard work in the local community)*

Treasurer's Report - Clare circulated the accounts. She mentioned the Chamber mission statement which stated our aim of representing local business interests, offering a programme - with local speakers sharing their experiences and expertise. Current membership rates were £20 and were recorded on the Go-Cardless system which took a 20p fee for each membership. There was a discrepancy in the November accounts, and these were to be agreed at the next meeting.

Christmas Lights - Phil said that as this was the first year that the Christmas Lights operated as a separate body from the Chamber and we needed to discuss allocation of expenses between the two organisations. The lights this year had been a great success and repaid the hard work of both groups in organising. A spreadsheet would be kept listing the various roles and responsibilities and will be used for future years. We, as a Chamber, need to find sponsors for some of the activities for the future.

Election of officers - As there were no new candidates the existing officers agreed to re-stand and were re-elected:

Chairman - David James

Vice Chairman - Phil Davies

Treasurer - Clare Davies

Membership Secretary - Sylvia Silver

Secretary, Hilary Smith

New Officer - Kim Ellis was elected as Promotions Secretary *(Title to be amended to Engagement Co-Ordinator)*

Any Other Business - Following discussion it was agreed to leave the membership fees at £20 for full membership and £10 for associate membership.

Christmas Lights - Switch-on Day -

- i) The light sticks had proved popular and donations had been paid into Chamber accounts.

- ii) The bucket collection was down on previous years
- iii) A spreadsheet showing breakdown of expenses and income to be circulated at the next meeting.
- iv) A survey to be prepared for circulation to local traders to find out what they felt about the lights and how much they benefited local trade.

Date of next meeting - No meeting in January - next meeting will be on February 6th at ~~I~~the Falcon Hotel starting at 7.30 p.m.