

Bromyard Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of Meeting 6th November 2019

Chairman's Report – The Hop Pole Hotel had been sold but no details yet as to who had bought it.

Treasurer's Report – Accounts being checked ready for report at AGM next month. To ensure that any monies identified as belonging to the Christmas Lights were transferred to the correct account. David James confirmed that accounts could be looked at in more detail, if members wished, but this would be best done at a separate meeting.

Membership Secretary's Report – Confirmation that Chamber Memberships renewals were due at the end of the Financial Year.

Events

RBL – The 'Pied Piper' parade would start at 8.30 a.m. on Friday 8th November and 220 local children would be involved. Vanessa Redgrave and Lord Dubbs would be at St Peter's Church and everyone was invited to attend and to see the exhibition about the children who had been evacuated to Bromyard during the Second World War. A procession to the Church would also take place on Sunday 10th November for the Remembrance Day Parade, starting at 9.30 a.m. from the Conquest Car Park. Armistice Day on Monday 11th November would be marked at the memorial garden by the Leisure Centre.

Christmas Lights Switch-On – Saturday 23rd November. Brian Johnson would commence the countdown to the switch-on. Road closures had been organised from 12 noon. Several events had been organised, including a Lantern Parade. There would also be a Christmas Street Market. Invitations had been issued to all traders to take part in the Christmas Window Competition and the response had been good.

Bromyard Chamber Christmas Lunch - this would take place on Sunday 24th November, 12.30 p.m. arrive for 1 p.m. at the Falcon Hotel, Bromyard. Bookings to be made direct to the Falcon Hotel. The Chamber awards would also be presented following the meal.

Future of the Chamber – Continuing from last month's discussion, the role of the Bromyard Chamber was considered. There had been many changes since the Chamber was formed in 1938. Many businesses no longer needed premises in the town to trade and people could shop on-line rather than visit shops in town. It was felt that if it was to continue, the Chamber needed to consider its role and how it could support local businesses and its wider role in the community. Since the Bromyard Chamber was not affiliated with National Chambers of Commerce a change of name might be relevant. Involvement with the Herefordshire Growth Hub could be considered, as they are keen to work with market towns. Ideas for social events, including breakfast meetings were also suggested. Decisions would need to be made following the AGM and election of the new committee.

AGM – This would be held on 4th December, starting at 7.30 p.m. at the Falcon Hotel, Bromyard. Nominations were invited for all Committee posts:

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Treasurer

Hon. Secretary

Event Co-Ordinator

The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Events Co-Ordinator have indicated that they do not wish to stand for re-election.