

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD ON THURSDAY 5 MAY 2016  
AT SEAFORD HEAD GOLF CLUB, (CLUBHOUSE), SOUTHDOWN ROAD  
SEAFORD, BN25 4JS  
COMMENCING AT 8.00AM**

## **MINUTES**

### **Committee Members In Attendance:**

Alastair Fortune	-	President
Paul Franklin	-	Vice President
Ian Jenkins	-	Treasurer
Rachel Brown	-	Secretary
Gerri Ori	-	Membership
Dave Argent	-	Ambassador/Events
Phil Boorman	-	Town Council Rep
Jonathan Chappell	-	Webmaster

**And 19 other members listed on the attached sheet.**

### **1. Welcome**

AF welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the reason for the change from previous format.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Received from Matthew Cox (Charles Cox Property Management), Andy Steer (AM Steer Ltd) and Daniel Upton (David Jordan).

### **3. Minutes of 2015 AGM**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 18 May 2015 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by: P Franklin

Seconded by: G Ori

### **4. Minutes of EGM 5 November 2015**

The minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on Thursday 4 November 2015 to ratify the proposed changes to the Chamber's Constitution were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by: D Argent

Seconded by: J Chappell

### **5. Matters arising**

- a) N Richardson proposed raising the price of breakfast to provide additional revenue for the Christmas Magic event. This was considered by the Committee but due to the Golf Club imposing a price increase on the Chamber for the breakfast provision, unfortunately it had not been possible to implement.

- b) R Bull had proposed a sum of £200 to be put towards awards and competitions rather than Christmas Magic – however following Committee discussion and the predicted budget deficit, it was felt the Chamber was not in a position to do this. However, the financial situation has improved and there is always the possibility to look at it again in the future.
- c) G Ori had concerns about the way the membership was listed on the Chamber website and that e-mail addresses could be harvested for spamming purposes. Following discussion in Committee, changes have been made to minimise this risk.
- d) Inter-chamber karting challenge – Seaford Chamber won the challenge last year and more drivers were needed for this year’s event.

#### **6. President’s Report – Alasdair Fortune**

A Fortune reported the highlights of his first year in office (report attached). The report was adopted by the meeting.

Proposer: G Ori

Secunder: N Richardson

#### **7. Treasurer’s Report – Ian Jenkins**

I Jenkins tabled a financial report to the meeting and summarised that overall, it had been a good year for the Chamber and breakfast meetings had been particularly successful in generating revenue. Subscription income had also increased by about £1,000. Expenditure was broadly comparable with the previous year. The Mary Portas income had been spent on developing the Seaford Town App. A forecast surplus of around £500 was predicted for the forthcoming year. The report was adopted by the meeting.

Proposer: H Macaulay

Secunder: M Boxall

#### **8. Committee Reports**

Webmaster J Chappell had previously circulated a report to members on Chamber activity relating to the website and social media.

G Ori reported on membership numbers which had increased by 45% in the last year. He went on to propose and target members to an increase of 125% for the forthcoming year and stated that if every member brought along a guest who joined the Chamber, this would be achieved. Visitor Packs were available to support this recruitment initiative. Discounts were available from members via use of the membership card.

#### **9. Election of Officers**

##### **President**

Vice President P Franklin assumed the Chair and commented that the Committee had worked extremely hard in the last year with membership increasing as a result.

There were no other nominations and Alasdair Fortune offered himself for re-election.

Proposer: R Brown

Secunder: G Ori

Approved by a unanimous vote. A Fortune said he was pleased to have the opportunity to build on what was started in the previous year.

**Vice President**

A Fortune resumed the position of Chair of the meeting and continued with the election of Officers. There were no other nominations and Paul Franklin offered himself for re-election.

Proposer: P Boorman

Secunder: S Oates

Approved by a unanimous vote.

**Treasurer**

There were no other nominations and Ian Jenkins offered himself for re-election.

Proposer: K Reid

Secunder: D Argent

Approved by a unanimous vote.

**New Committee members**

Clare Davis had offered herself for election (in her absence) to the Committee in a general capacity.

Proposer: P Boorman

Secunder: N Richardson

Approved by a unanimous vote

**The remainder of the Committee** was elected en bloc:

Proposer: N Richardson

Secunder: G Ori

Approved by a unanimous vote

It was confirmed that Immediate Past President (G Ori) and Secretary (R Brown) were ex-officio members of the Committee and therefore not subject to the election process.

**10. Any Other business**

- a) G Anderson proposed a change to the table layout for breakfast meetings to individual tables. This would be considered by the Committee and discussed with Golf Club staff.
- b) G Anderson also suggested more frequent meetings as currently the Chamber only meets monthly. This idea would also be discussed in Committee.
- c) P Boorman reported he was aware of some speculation on social media about the Mary Portas grant and how it had been spent. G Ori confirmed that the money was ringfenced and expenditure was subject to considerable governance. P Boorman suggested information could be circulated by as the Chamber to confirm how it was being spent. J Chappell analysed most of the discussions relating to the Chamber on social media and was not aware of such speculation. It was confirmed there was no time limit on when the Mary Portas grant had to be spent.
- d) Seahaven Business Awards – P Woolven asked whether details of nominees will be published before the event. R Brown explained that Newhaven Chamber were the organisers of the event – as a member of Newhaven Committee, H Macaulay confirmed that no details would be available in advance of the presentation dinner.
- e) K Reid asked whether the Visitor Pack was available electronically to assist with recruiting new members – AF confirmed plenty of printed packs were available.

The meeting closed at 8.35am.

See over for the President's Report....

## President's Report

This is where I am supposed to give you a précis of the year, and I thought to myself, well what have we done? It's not till you start writing it down that you discover that we have done loads!!

Let's start with membership. June last year we were 57 members. Now we are over 83. That's more than a 45% increase or 2 new members every single month.

We have had some fantastic breakfast speakers from Maria Caulfield MP talking on local issues to Andrew Taylor (and his interpreter Caroline Barnes) from 'Action on Hearing' telling us of grants available to us help the hard of hearing at work.

We have had Jessica Hylands on Confidence to Keith Blackburn on making Seaford a better place to live... and the list goes on.

We have built an App "I LOVE SEAFORD" that helps to advertise all of our businesses; it feeds all the latest information about the town, like where to park, what's on at the theatre, when the bridge is next closed, what happened this week in Seaford history.

We introduced Membership Discount Cards, so all can benefit from deals like Corporate Membership at Wave Leisure or 10% off at Badger Inks.

We have added the Italian markets to the existing French markets, which is a definite plus; the move to Sutton Road has been a great success.

In June we went Go Karting in an inter-chamber event against Newhaven and Peacehaven Chambers... and of course we won, so we will be doing it again this year. It's taking place at the Campbell Circuit at Filching Manor on **Sunday 12 June 2016 - 1pm**

**Cost: £40.00 per head**

Because we won it last year, we need to win again!!!

In September we introduced the 'Chamber Challenge Charity Golf Day' and we raised over £1,000 for 'Remember Spencer' and this year we are doing it again to raise money for the 'Barn theatre'. So you golfers, come on, we need you now so we can put together teams! This year it will be here on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

At Christmas we had a change with an evening Christmas Party, which was a great success. We will be selling the tickets for this year's event soon!

And finally: We are currently getting together 'street representatives' to communicate Chamber information to the Town Centre and Cradle Hill businesses who are not members to help get them to see what we get up to and therefore encourage them to become members.

**Alasdair Fortune**

**Attendees:**

Greg	Anderson	Andy Anderson & Son
Dave	Argent	Retired
Kevin	Barnard	Reid Briggs
Mick	Barrett	Seaford Museum
Phillip	Boorman	Seaford Town Council
Mark	Boxall	Shoreline Accountants
Gary	Bray	Willow Private Finance
Rachel	Brown	Secretary Outsource
Jonathan	Chappell	Graphicz
Anne	Clark	MCL Transport Consultants Ltd
Alasdair	Fortune	Badger Inks
Paul	Franklin	House Clearance Company
Peter	Gwilliam	Specialist training consultants
Sue	Harbottle-Sear	Northstar IT
Jessica	Hylands	Jessica Hylands Confidence Coach
Ian	Jenkins	Swindells
Duncan	Kerr	Wave Leisure Trust
Martin	Kershaw	Jermyn and sons
Nick	Mallinson	Seahaven FM
Simone	Oates	Homeopath
Gerri	Ori	Brooklyn Motors
Dave	Peachey	Southdown Physiotherapy Clinic
Neal	Richardson	Splashpoint Music
Debbie	Ward-Guy	Hayward Recruitment
Jon	Whitehead	Cleankill
Paula	Woolven	Seaford Musical Theatre
Liz	Wright	Wrightideas4u