

Minutes of the Committee meeting of the Marden Business Forum, held on Thursday 1st August 2013, at 6 pm in Burtons' Boardroom, Pattenden Lane, Marden. TN12 9QS

Committee Members Present:

David Burton – Chairman
Liz Stanley - Vice Chairman
Angus Boucher – Treasurer
Ben McGannan – Committee
Bob Long - Committee

Forum Members Present:

None.

Apologies received:

Andrew Streek - Committee
Steve Ford - Secretary

Welcome: David Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting, no further introductions were necessary.

Minutes of Last Meeting: the minutes of the last committee meeting had been distributed before the meeting, and were agreed.

Matters arising: there were none, not covered by Agenda items.

Review of Air Ambulance Event: A successful event, well attended, with favourable exit comments. The early start was an obvious problem, indicated by late arrivals. Should be articles in Downs Mail and the Courier about the event. The reminder email had no known response, whilst those personal emails from committee members were more successful.

Treasurers Report: the balance sheet was circulated, and discussed, which showed £6789 being held at the Bank with £29 of accruals against future payments. The amount of money held, was discussed, with the decision to defer any further discussion/decisions until the Directory has been published and delivered.

Membership Renewals

- 66 businesses have renewed their membership.
- SLF will organise checking details of the existing membership, and obtaining further information from them.
- SLF to publish list of members and members not renewed which will facilitate committee members making personal contact with those not renewed.
- Target is 100 businesses in Marden.

Events Planned:

- **Meet and Greet @ Stilebridge** (DB) 3.10.13, all booked. SLF to provide PA system. Remove timings from Website. Comment from member about 1 minute business introductions will be built into this event.
- **Helen Grant @ Unicorn** –(LS) all booked and confirmed.
- Try to get a speaker at each event for 15 minutes, possibly anecdotal style, and a compare/interviewer for the Helen Grant event, each committee member to follow up on their personal contacts as outlined.
- Plan for this year is 4 events, possibly 5, further ideas were a curry night and further Business Visits.

Website – operating satisfactorily.

MBF Directory: additional meeting of committee for this to be discussed fully. TBA

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Vehicle Restrictions through Yalding. Correspondence has been received from Yalding Parish Council, requesting their position being circulated amongst members. After discussion, it was agreed, that we as a forum will put out a brief newsletter covering the various standpoints of the businesses, and councils, and then "signposting" members to various bodies / websites/addresses, where further information / representations can be made. DB to co-ordinate.

Marden Neighbourhood Plan Update: when the survey is available we will circulate this to the members.

AOB: None

Date of Next committee Meeting: will be on 29.8.2013 commencing at 6pm, to be held in the Water for Work Board Room, Pattenden Lane, Marden

Meeting closed at 7.40pm, with thanks to David of Burtons for hosting the meeting.