Minutes of the Committee meeting of the Marden Business Forum, held on Thursday 6th June 2013, at 5 pm in Claygates' Boardroom, Pattenden Lane, Marden. TN12 9QS

Committee Members Present:

David Burton – Chairman Liz Stanley - Vice Chairman Angus Boucher – Treasurer Steve Ford – Secretary Bob Long Andrew Streek Forum Members Present:

Apologies received: Ben McGannan Bob Long – will be late

Welcome: David Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting, no further introductions were necessary. This meeting is as a result of rescheduling the postponed meeting of 30.5.2013, as several members sent apologies.

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

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

Committee membership –It was agreed that no further increase to the committee by co-option would take place, in view of the present workload and continuity in driving the Forum forward. –

Membership

- Renewals
 - $\circ \quad \text{invoices are ready to be sent out} \\$
 - o several amendments suggested and accepted to the Invitation to Re-join flyer
 - Cheques and balances will be passed to the Treasurer on a weekly basis by Sue at Burtons, who will be maintaining the list of renewals, which will become the current membership for April 2013 to March 2014
 - The co-joined membership lists were checked by Liz and David, and form the basis of the mail out of invitations to renew /invoices, which will occur in the next few days.
 - After one month, personal chasing and phone calls will be commenced
- Criteria
 - David and Steve had looked into this matter, and proposed that any Business operating within the Parish of Marden was eligible for membership of the Forum, and a map produced by KCC was shown to the committee. Any requests for membership from businesses outside but adjacent to the boundary would be brought to the committee for a decision.
- Requests
 - Were received from Alan Reading of CMR group.co.uk, Chainhurst, and Equinox Recycling Ltd of Chainhurst, both being within the boundary, they were accepted.
 - Further requests will be accepted on the basis outlined above.

Website – operating satisfactorily, suggestions for content are always welcome by Steve, to keep it fresh and lively. Trying to implement a monthly email / Newsletter to the membership rather than adhoc emails.

Calendar of Events

- Events will be for Member and guest whenever possible, may be limited due to numbers for example
- Invites to go out by post, seeking RSVP by email back to: committee@MardenBusinessForum.com

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- Kent Air Ambulance Event Andrew will take the lead on this event, preferred dates 4th or 11th July, commencing at 6pm for about 1 hour. DB will suggest a possible layout for the invite to members, artwork and printed by AS, which will be posted out DB. Buffet/drinks for 30-40 people, budget up to £250. Try to gain publicity from the media for the event, to raise MBF profile.
- Meet & Greet Members Evening David will take the lead on this event, a Thursday in late September/early October, at the Stile Bridge Pub. Commencing at 6pm for about 1 hour. Raffle of "good" prizes, tickets possibly linked to the purchasing of a drink at the bar. Budget up to £250, based on 30-40 people.
- **Meet Helen Grant** Liz will take the lead on this event, a provisional date of 13th December has been discussed with Helen. Preferred venue is the Unicorn Pub.

Treasurers Report – The bank balance is £5579. The MBF insurance has been paid, and AB is holding the insurance certificate. SF was reminded that an invoice had not been received for web hosting.

AOB:

- Request to publicise the Marden Medical Centre support of the British Heart Foundation, by and event. SF to find out details and put on website and in Newsletter.
- MBF involvement at Marden Fete, to be discussed at next meeting.

Date of Next committee Meeting: will be on 27.6.2013 commencing at 6pm, to be held in the conference room of Burtons, Pattenden Lane, Marden TN12

Meeting closed at 6.00pm, with thanks to Andrew and Claygate for hosting the meeting.