

Bingley Chamber of Trade & Commerce
Minutes of meeting held on 29th September 2015 @ Feature Radiators, Main
Street, Bingley

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Richard Tempest and seconded by Kay Adams.

Apologies for absence received from: Christine Barker @ Santander, Richard Aldred, Jan Brearley @ Shoobox, Paul Stephens @ SBVS, Pauline Wood, Matthew Kay, Richard Dawson, Jane Gerwitz and Mayhall Financial Services.

Thanks were given to Feature Radiators for hosting the meeting and also to Martinez Wines for the wine and Lacys for the nibbles and BLT for the loan of the chairs.

Howard commented that Feature Radiators are an award winning business and the Chamber are glad that they chose to stay in Bingley.

Police Report PCSO Rob Parker

Since the last meeting crime figures have dropped. Shoplifters are now being challenged in the Town and the Co-op have been asked to challenge known shoplifters. One arrest on the 18/8. With the Business Watch and photos more and more are being identified and police feel that they are getting on top of the issue.

No issues as yet with Poundland.

2 damage reports.

With regard to the drug dealing issues there is no further update on this. There is no C.C.T.V. in the problem areas. The current priority for the Police is the shoplifting issue. Rob said that help is needed to tackle the problem of drugs and the Chamber members can help by providing:

Car Registration numbers

Descriptions of drivers

Bill Hurst said that another issue arising from the drug problem was the speed of the cars, one day someone could get killed.

Richard Holmes also commented that Court sentences were also too lenient and Bob said that this also applied to shoplifting cases.

Andrew Milnes stated that these are larger issues than the Chamber can deal with and thanked Rob for his efforts which are appreciated.

If anyone is not part of the Business Watch scheme but would like to be, please contact Rob.

Car Parking

At the last meeting it was asked for members to raise issues. Jackie Taylor did some research and found that most businesses were struggling. Commuters are taking up most of the spaces. David Heseltine has agreed to take the problems to the Council.

Traffic Wardens are active in the Town.

No more permits are available at the moment.

Please feed any specific issues to Andrew Milne.

Town Centre Report

The Brown Cow is being refurbished.

ALDI – is to open on the 22/10/2015

Poundland - is up and trading and things are going well. Its presence has already had a beneficial effect with a 4% business increase.

Restore Charity Shop

Is taking over the old travel agents premises on Main St.

Town Council – narrowly got passed the last hurdle. It still has to go to full council for ratification at the end of October.

Last year the Christmas lights didn't quite go to plan but this year are aware of problems and Paul North put us in touch with relevant department and some testing has been done. They have agreed to give us 8 new sets of coloured lights.

The Rev. Beverley Mason is going to leave at the end of the year to be the Archdeacon at Ripon.

The notice boards in the Town Square have not been getting updated but with Paul North's help we can have keys so we can update.

The new nightclub is up and running. A large number turned up for the opening and owner thinks things will settle down after 2/3 months so give him time to resolve any teething issues. PCSO Rob Parker thinks the problems are with people leaving, again the proprietor will have to manage this as problems could affect his licence.

Christmas Fayre

Again the rides, grotto etc. are free. The Chamber takes the view of putting things back into Bingley. Foundry Hill have agreed to put up marquee in the Square. Chamber is to have a meeting with Bradford Markets re. stalls. (inside and outside stalls). Co-op used to be a generous sponsor – now will need to go around the town asking for sponsorship. Are

hoping Emerald may sponsor again but we are aware that because we are a small town we tend to rely on the same firm and people. If anyone can spare some time please contact Howard, Andrew or Richard.

The date of the Fayre will be the last Saturday in November.

If anyone has any prizes for the tombola please drop them off at Jaimie Illingworth's office.

Bingley Bear will be there.

We have no celebrity to switch on the lights as yet.

A.O.B.

There is a "tree" growing out of Valentino's wall – the Chamber will contact the Freeholder if we can get the name.

Andrew said it was good to see new faces at the meeting and please ask for membership forms.

Next meeting to be Tuesday 17 November – venue to be confirmed.

