

## Meeting Details

- Wells Chamber of Commerce and Tourism
- MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- 6.00pm 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021, via Zoom

## Members Present

- Jonathan Orchard, Judith Ludovino, Robert Powell, Andy Vallis, Simon Lawder, Paddy O'Hagan, Bill Lloyd, Ian Ames-White, Jo Roseff, Mike Tucker, Michael Johns
- Guest: Emma Lefevre, Project Factory,
- Apologies: Kirstie Harris

## Minutes

1. **Welcome** – Jonathan Orchard welcomed all to the meeting.
2. **Review and Annual Accounts** – Jonathan expressed the intention to re-start Chamber activities commencing with this AGM. He reported that there is currently a bank balance of £11,339 with £117 in petty cash. Of Mendip District Council grants there is c.£6000 remaining.
3. **Election of Officers** – Chair, Judith Ludovino, nominated by Michael Johns, seconded by Ian Ames-White, approved by members  
Treasurer – Jonathan Orchard, nominated by Judith Ludovino, seconded by Michael Johns, approved by members  
Vice Chair - Mike Tucker, nominated by Robert Powell, seconded by Paddy O'Hagan, approved by members  
Committee member – Ian Ames-White, volunteered and approved by members
4. **Immediate Plans – Website.** Jonathan Orchard explained that local companies have been approached and Marc Osborne of Gromedia (Street, Somerset) has provided a competitive quote of £1000 for initial website setup. Michael Johns stressed the website should be user friendly, Robert Powell, Paddy O'Hagan and Simon also expressed support for a professional website. Expenditure agreed.

**Marketing** – it was agreed by members that business cards should be printed (generic, for use by all members), plus funds for additional print and postage as required to promote membership of the chamber. Expenditure agreed.

**Secretarial services** – It was agreed by members that there should be a budget, initially of £600 a year (including VAT) for secretarial and telephony services and that for 2021/22 TelePA Ltd would provide these services. To assist with minute taking it was suggested by Michael Johns and agreed by members that there should be audio recordings of the meetings.

5. **Aims of the Chamber** – Judith shared an outline of aims, with Simon Lawder suggesting representation in addition to voice.

**Business** – sharing news and opportunities.

**Participation** – Giving a little of your time and expertise for the benefit of the wider business community.

**Community** – meeting like-minded people, expanding your social circle.

**Representation/Voice** – making your ideas and views known to a wide and influential audience.

6. **Next meetings** – First Monday of each month, from 5<sup>th</sup> July, at the Council Chamber, with socialising in local hospitality venues afterwards (until members request otherwise).
7. **Member news/AoB** – It was discussed that the Chamber should be active in inviting participation from local and district representatives in Wells and Mendip councils, it was agreed active invitations should be made.

Michael Johns suggested a campaign to remove ugly red and white bollards from the marketplace for something more attractive – Simon Lawder commented the council is on the case with this.

Bill Lloyd from Cedars Hall said events are planned from July/August. Widely welcomed and BL asked to provide details for wider distribution of this news.

Antony Gormley statue, Emma Lefevre described sponsorship opportunities will be arising and it was agreed that these should be publicised to the membership. It was also voted on and agreed by members that a donation of £500 should be made by the Chamber to support this project that will benefit so many businesses in Wells.

Meeting closed 7pm.