

MINUTES OF THE BFMD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 5.15pm WEDNESDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2013

Attendees: Rhys Roberts, Peter Hare-Scott, Kevin Finan, Chris Prentis, Pene Prior, David Hinshelwood, Peter Shaw, David Disney.

Apologies: Stephen Walker, John Potter.

Chairman's Welcome: RR welcomed everyone to the meeting and passed over to PHS who announced that BFMD had won an award sponsored by the FSB. The award confirmed that BFMD were the winners of the best overall scheme to stimulate and encourage business in the Mid Devon area. RR on behalf of the BFMD accepted the trophy and it was agreed that the trophy would be put on display in a prominent position in the hotel for members to view, it was also noted that MDDC co-ordinated our entry.

Minutes: JP in his absence had emailed a correction to the previous minutes to clarify that the two invoices reported as having been received relating to expenses to the Mid Devon show and website should read that one invoice was from Round Ash and related to database expenses. The remainder of the minutes were approved.

Finance: In JP's absence RR read the finance report. The current bank balance is £4019.80 with liabilities of £126.00 due to Round Ash and £258.00 to Lathwell Associates and therefore net funds are £3635.00. It was also reported that 14 renewal subscriptions had been received since the last meeting.

Web Update: PS distributed a Google analytics report showing association website activity during August and September.

Social Media: NL reported that the latest numbers of Twitter followers was 872 but warned that activity had slowed of late. She highlighted a possible opportunity through Devon Hour which was a Twitter activity aimed at the business community.

Forum Meeting Update: NL reported that 42 members had confirmed for the meeting later and RR informed the executive committee of an agenda change with Rory Weaver now presenting first and Robert Warner and Niki Lathwell presenting the strategy outcomes and facilitating members workshop's later. In discussing the November

meeting, it was agreed that we should try and organise a strong speaker line up to encourage more members to attend .

Strategy Update: The committee discussed the visioning brainstorm document from RW and in addition to the recommendations identified in the report, some additional points were expressed.

1. BFMD need not necessarily confine its membership to the Mid Devon geographical area and it was noted that at our last meeting some attendees from Exeter had been at the meeting.

2. It was felt desirable that BFMD should aim to hold one meeting a year outside of Tiverton to encourage membership from other areas and this would better reflect the current membership profile.

3. It was suggested that BFMD should consider holding social events in future as a way of attracting new members.

4. MDDC accepted the suggestion to publicise future tender documents on the associations website and the feasibility of a link to DCC procurement was to be looked into.

5. In accepting the requirement identified in the report, it was suggested that a revision of the current executive committee structure be looked at following publication of the agreed new strategic plan.

Meeting Dates 2014: RR informed the meeting that the following dates had been agreed for next year with the BWTiverton Hotel, 22nd January, 25th March, 15th May, 17th July, 23rd September and 19th November 2014.

Next Meeting: 5pm 21st November BWTiverton Hotel.

Meeting Closed.