

MINUTES OF THE BFMD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 5.00pm 8th March, 2016

Attendees: Andrew Lathwell, Peter Shaw, David Hinshelwood, Colin Slade, Chris Prentis, John Potter, Pene Prior, Dave Disney

Apologies: Meia Allegranza, Amy Tregellas, Richard Chesterton,

Minutes of January meeting accepted - Nil matters arising that are not covered below.

Chairman's Opening Remarks

BFMD attendance at the Devon Business Expo

Date - 28th April – Open 10:00 – 16:00

DD, JP, CP, PP, AL would spend some time on the stand.

Free to attend as visiting delegate – just need to pre-register

Banner 2mts x 1 mt for café – **AL** to prepare artwork and commission production -

BFMD stand will be 6 mts x 1 mts

Invite all members to submit expression of interest for having information on the stand

Ask for members to volunteer for covering the stand

BFM sponsoring the café – need a banner

Turn up and pull up initiative

General invite for members to bring along their own pop – up banners at meetings

Future Meeting Arrangements

Will try a second round table network session at a meeting

Discussion regarding organising a meeting at Crediton?

- QE2 as potential venue, or golf club?

Finance/membership report

£5840.32 in bank with circa £300 invoices to pay (printing and CRM training).

Subscription to Which

60 paid up members + Tiverton hotel

4 members had not renewed, 6 outstanding renewals currently

Attendees who have registered to attend more than one meeting were being listed.

Marketing

Colin Slade – Twitter:

Twitter: 1872 followers. Request for members to re-tweet – currently shared with over 20,000 users

Meia Allegranza & Facebook

- Facebook – a plea for more “likes” for the pages.

Peter Shaw – Website:

- 224 sessions in the period, with 170 unique visitors. Numbers visiting the site had increased, however, the number of events on the website have decreased.
- PS to investigate the google “ranking” for “network Devon” and other similar search phrases.

Newsletter

- to be prepared when content available

Pop up banners – AL to contacted banks. Nat West have hosted a banner.

Gazette profiles

- Agreed with Patrick, will invite members to contribute

Speaker schedule: latest

- **Thursday 19th May**
- **Tuesday 12th July**
- **Weds 21st Sept**
- **Thursday 17th Nov**
- Mary Quick – confirmed September 2016. – establishing the brand, creating business growth
- Potential speakers
 - **Possible 19th May**
 - John Holden – beast of Exmoor, agreed to talk. **AL** to discuss content
 - Mark Challacombe, Petroc – to talk about apprenticeships? **PP** to contact
 - **Possible 12th July 12**
 - Crowd cube – speaker agreed
 - John Lewis – innovation – AL had contacted, would present to a meeting
 - Otter Brewery- Patrick Mckeig – CS had contacted - agreed to speak in latter part of the year

- Nick Agg-Manning CS to contact later
- Burts Crips – John Potter to contact
- UKTI?
- Karl Busch offered to present on seminar on funding for “Buy to Let” – AL to contact regarding a broader offer.

AOB

Invite MDDC new chief exec to next meeting

Annual awards in spring? Some interest:

- MDDC propose to look at organising their own business awards – suggested that BFMD acts as a support to those awards - feedback after meeting with her team at MDDC