

MINUTES OF THE BFMD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 5.00pm 12th July 2016

Attendees: Andrew Lathwell, Peter Shaw, David Hinshelwood, Colin Slade, Dave Disney, Mark Challacombe (Petroc), Chris Prentis

Apologies: Meia Allegranza, Richard Chesterton, John Potter, Chris Prentis, Chris Shears

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

Chairman's Opening Remarks

Andrew pointed out that Amy Tregelas had withdrawn from the committee and nominated Chris Shears as her full time replacement.

This left only one female on the exec – can we identify any potential members who could take on a role?

Finance/membership report

£5,585 current balance

64 paid up members + Tiverton hotel

1 new members, 4 renewals - 4 outstanding renewals

Marketing

Colin Slade – Twitter:

2012 (previous 1961) followers

Request for updated content on website – particularly members events

Peter Shaw – Website:

- 282 sessions in the period (224 sessions in the previous period), with 209 unique visitors in the period (170 unique visitors in the previous period). 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

- Will continue to be sent out – results in activity on bookings after each edition

Speaker schedule: latest

- **12th July 12**
 - SW Cyber Security – CS to make enquiries with Roz Woodward
 - John Holden – beast of Exmoor, agreed to talk. **AL** to discuss content

- **Weds 21st Sept**
 - Mary Quick – confirmed September 2016. – establishing the brand, creating business grow
 - Richard Chesterton (MDDC) and Dominic Dunbrook (DCC) – 10 minutes on REAL Devon grants available, status update following Brexit.
 - Wellhayes Vineyard – successful recipient of a grant, telling their business journey so far, and what they did with grant - 20-30 mins as available.
- **Thursday 17th Nov**
 - Otter Brewery- Patrick Mckeig
 - Crowd cube – speaker agreed – can they attend Nov?
 - AGM
- **Possibles - January**
 - UKTI - DAH?
 - Charles Borne Westaway sausages – CS?
 - MAS - CP?
 - Karl Busch offered to present on seminar on funding for “Buy to Let” – AL to contact regarding a broader offer.

AOB

- **Devon Expo** – A proposal from DD, seconded by CP to attend 2017
- Invite Stephen Walford (MDDC chief exec) to next meeting – AL?
- Tiverton high street organisation calling themselves the “Tiverton Business Forum”. AL to have discussions regarding the name/branding with the chairman – to avoid confusion, where the 2 organisations can co-operate.
- Petroc are setting up “Peter Jones” academy – level 3 course in business studies.
- JP proposed, seconded by DAH, that BFMD records their thanks to AI for all his hard work putting together the cancelled referendum meeting.