



Meeting Minutes

Held at: Devil's Kneading Trough

Date: Wednesday 22nd March 2006

Present: Ann Sutherland Chair;
Richard Boden (left 19h38); John Claydon; Ian Cooling Mike Copland; Delia Copland;
Dave Dubber; Robert Earll; Jeannette Henderson; Jeff Higgins; Janet Hullett; Chris Pound;
Kamal Sayany; Freddie Vaughan; Nicola Warren

Apologies: Jo Bond; Sarah Butt; Francis Huntington; Jenny Lye; John Morris; Nigel Maclean

Action

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

2. Business Wyse

John Claydon said that although he no longer has as much time to put into Business Wyse, it is essential that it continues and called for WBA members to contribute. He said he would write an article about Crown Print for the next edition. Janet agreed to help with editing articles and interviewing businesses. Mike agreed to do an article for next edition.

ALL MEMBERS

There was a general discussion about Business Wyse – the main points to emerge were:

- It is the main vehicle for reaching people who are not able to attend meetings.
- Distributed to 1,500 around the village; published four times a year.
- It is a talking point in the village.
- Remains independent and WBA does not get involved in the politics of the village.
- Each edition to be themed – e.g. Fitness and Health (contact Jo Bond, Lea Dickson) Spring gardens (Francis and Lucy Huntington), Ripple Farm Organics, etc.
- Next edition will publish photos of Street party.
- Where it is sold, the price is to be 25p
- **Advertising (including editorial) costs £10 per member, £20 non-member** (which is very cheap advertising).
- New businesses are especially welcome to contribute.

ALL MEMBERS

This is your Newsletter – please contribute articles / advertising.

Please speak to Janet Hullett (Tel: **812872**) or John Claydon (email : kbq80@dial.pipex.com)

3. WBA – where are we going?

Ann started a discussion about the purpose of WBA - What use are we to our members, village, community? What are we all about? How can WBA help members? Points arising out of the discussion were as follows:

- Kamal suggested taking ideas from other village associations. Look at websites: <http://www.rural.co.uk/> and <http://www.ukvillages.co.uk>
- Members could offer discounts to other members and/or to the wider community. (Questionnaire to follow). The list of members and discounts offered could be

ALL



published in a leaflet to be distributed throughout the village.

- It was agreed to hold a Business Exhibition on **Saturday 16th September**. Ian, John and Chris are to form a working group to organise it.
- Janet will talk to editor of Kent on Sunday and other local press to get publicity for WBA in general.
- Subscription renewal will be due in May and the plan is to have our logo printed on vinyl stickers to be included in the renewal pack.
- Ian is starting a membership drive amongst the 150 businesses in the area.

4. **Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce**

In principle, Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce has agreed to WBA becoming a member as an association, but the cost has not yet been agreed. Nicola will ask them what the options for a seminar are and if possible we should open up the invitation to the wider community and other businesses, not just WBA. This would be useful as part of WBA's marketing.

5. **Any Other Business**

Village Hall Committee event 8th July : It was agreed that WBA would take part in this event supporting the community as well as promoting WBA. Ann asked members to come up with some ideas for a stall. It was agreed that we need a permanent banner with our logo for use at fetes, etc. We also need a leaflet display stand.

Village jobs: Jeff said he was finding it difficult to recruit permanent staff at The Wooden Spoon Preserving Company.

Street party: Ann mentioned that last year there were problems with the road closure. Ian has undertaken to get the council behind us and/or help to get funding.

Refreshments: Everyone thanked Dave for providing the excellent refreshments.

Thanks: Everyone thanked Ann for her continued hard work on our behalf.

Next Meeting : **WEDNESDAY 26th April 7 p.m.**, and
WEDNESDAY 24th May at 6.30 p.m. at the Devil's Kneading Trough.

Action

MEMBERS

**Ian Cooling,
John Claydon,
Chris Pound
Janet Hullett**

Ian Cooling

**Nicola
Warren**