MUCH WENLOCK & DISTRICT CHAMBER OF TRADE

Minutes of Chamber Meeting: Tuesday 19th November 2015, 5.15 pm at Cup of Rosy Lee

Future of Chamber and Chamber Priorities

- Juliet Esp said that she wished to resign as Secretary. **Agreed that another Secretary should be sought.**

- It was thought important that the Chamber needed to be re-launched and that an open evening and recruitment event should be held. Agreed that this should take place in early spring 2016 and invitations should be sent out to those on the business directory compiled by Robert. It was suggested that there should be a discount for new members enrolling on the night. **Mary Elliott agreed to help with this event.**

- **Action: Robert to check availability of Guildhall and Priory Hall for the re-launch event.**

Appointment and work of Chamber Clerk

- Agreed that a Chamber Clerk would continue to be needed after Robert's departure since previous experience of sharing work between Chamber members had proved difficult.

- **Action: Sharon Leyland to speak to Malcolm MacIntyre-Read about his interest in the Chamber Clerk post.**

Working with Town Council to promote town

- Yvonne Holyoak (Mayor of Wenlock) said that the Town Council wished to work closer with the Chamber in promoting the town. She noted that the Council were willing to grant £500 to the Chamber provided that a programme could be agreed.

- Paul Hutchinson thought there would be potential in developing a Chamber website with links to trader websites and social media. Websites could also be linked to an online version of the town map.

- Accurate monitoring of trade was not thought easy but it was suggested that some traders would be willing to report transaction volumes on a regular basis.

- **Action: Robert to write to the Town Clerk to confirm the Chamber's willingness to work with the Town Council.**

Food Fayres/Christmas Lights

- Agreed that the Food Fayres had been valuable but that more variety in the food offered would be welcome, particularly hot food.

Great British High Street 2016

- **Agreed to consider this further at the next Chamber meeting.**

Sponsorship of Much Wenlock Festival 2016

- Robert said that several traders had already agreed to sponsor the Festival and noted that sponsorship offers were still welcome. Chamber members had also agreed to host scarecrows made by Primary School pupils.

Map and Guide

- Robert noted that the leaflets sent to Pear Communications had nearly all been distributed. He had a few hundred still available for local distribution. **It was agreed to take a decision on a reprint at the next meeting and that distribution of this should be more closely targeted**.