

Chamber of Commerce meeting 08 June 2016

I attended the meeting and the following took place.

1. Discussion on 2 town councillors who have been cutting back on some overgrown area of Love Lane.
2. Ex Town Councillor reporting on SSDC who have apparently decided to have more teams created to smooth the way SSDC works.
3. Discussions took place over Independent Ilminster (being there just to report and as liaison to Town Council) initially I was unsure what this was about, as far as I could tell discussions revolved around businesses who are not members of the Chamber of Commerce thereby being independent, the name "*Independent Ilminster*" was being challenged.
4. Steve Sowden (used to be freelancer for Chard and Ilminster) has created his own business and is calling it **Ilminster Press**. He requested that if anybody had a story which could be placed on the Website to contact him and he would do so. (As the Town Council was looking for ways to promote the Town I would suggest that this is a perfect way). The cost of advertising on the website was also discussed £350 for a full year for the one advert.
5. Midsummer Experience is going well and it is envisaged that the vintage car show would feature approx 200 vehicles, the food and craft are also going well. There was comment on the number of flags on show and how good they look. Mention was made of Scarecrow judging and Photograph with the winner of the flag designer for the Town Council. (This is all in hand)
6. The Chamber of Commerce is seeking to have a National Charge Point for Electric Vehicles being placed in the Town – Chamber of Commerce have been informed that Ilminster is midway between two charge points, however one of the District Councillors have stated that charge point will possibly go up in Martock.
7. Discussions took place on advertising "*First Tuesday*".
8. Notified that Fairtrade AGM will take place soon in the Bowling Club. Sponsorship for Fairtrade signs was also discussed although Fairtrade are saying that they have sponsorship from the Chamber of Commerce as yet that is subject to Fairtrade getting sponsorship for the other 3 (Fairtrade will raise £250 for one of the signs by public donation/fairtrade money raising schemes)
9. Next Meeting will be on the 13 July at 1800hrs in Shrubbery Hotel. There was also mention of having a Social Evening in Aug after the Aug meeting.

This is my report.

Don Kinder

Town Council Representative on Chamber of Commerce