

Report on Chamber of Commerce Meeting held on 11th February 2015

The subjects discussed were:

Fair Trade Town status

This now been granted to Ilminster but the public announcement of the award will be made at various events throughout the town during FAIRTRADE Fortnight, which this year runs from 23rd February to 8th March, and a formal presentation will be made by the Steering Group to the Mayor and Town Councillors at the annual Ilminster Town Assembly on 21st April.

Flooding Money

It is proposed that money received to compensate for the downturn in business in the town due to flooding in the surrounding areas should used to advertise the town on the Breeze and in the Yeovil Press.

First Tuesday/Loyalty Card

The First Tuesday event was discussed in some detail, as there has been a fall in business membership. It was agreed to continue for the moment and at the same time pursue the idea of an Ilminster loyalty card. The promise of sponsorship for such a card has now been received.

The Town App

Cosmic have agree to give training on the Town App, how to access the site and load up data relevant to the individual shops. A working/social event is to be arranged to enable this to happen.

Under any other business

- **Town Crier Competition** - It is planned that this will take place on Saturday 18th April in the centre of town. It is hoped that eight to ten Criers will take part giving two cries each, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. There will be five judges, four to assess the cries and one to judge the costumes.
- **A Victorian Evening** - update.
- **AGM** - This will take place next month
- **The Hanging Baskets** and the watering of them is being discussed
- **The re-introduction of Caroline Cameron's green/eco bags**
- It was mentioned that a group of French Singers would be visiting the town in the near future. They will be performing in the Minister. The singers are not from Reic sur Belon. The shops will be asked to decorate their windows to celebrate the visit.