



**Annual General Meeting**  
held on Tuesday 3 November 2020  
at 7.30 am Virtual Zoom Meeting

**MINUTES**

**Committee Members**

Mark Derrick

Simon Studd

Paula Gander

Rachel Brown

Matt Gray

Eddie Gregory

Simon Marks

Apologies Grahame Bannister

**In attendance:**

Stuart Foster

Simone Glazer

Sarah Rebello

Mark Styles

Lewis Jackson

**1. Welcome, Chairman's Report**

M Derrick read out his report of highlights in his third year as Chairman and formally welcomed everyone to the AGM of Peacehaven & District Chamber of Commerce with this being the first Zoom based AGM.

M Derrick provided his report as follows:

**The Chamber**

M Derrick thanked the Committee members for their hard work throughout the year and reiterated their positions. Mark Derrick is the Chair, Simon Studd the Vice Chair, Paula Gander is the Secretary, Simon Marks the Treasurer, Grahame Bannister is the web master, Rachel Brown our previous Secretary, is known as the Grand Master full of technical information and Matt Gray is learning the ropes. Everybody contributes and works hard in the background.

M Derrick proceeded to mention the highlights of the year for him as Chairman. Firstly the Chamber has had some great speakers attend the bi-weekly Breakfast Meetings. In house, Barwells, Wave Leisure, Three Pillars of Fitness, Tennyson Suite, Peacehaven and Telscombe Football Club, Openhouse, and Leads Direct. Peacehaven Town Council had also spoken on a couple of occasions with updates on the community and also consulting on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Guest speakers have also included Havens Community Hub, Martletts, Bowls Club, Sussex Fire and Rescue and The National Post Watch. The Chamber has had an excellent and varied array of speakers with special thanks to Paula whose work on this is tireless.



The highlight for M Derrick was to have the honour of attending the Remembrance Sunday Service last November and laying a wreath on behalf of the Chamber. In summary the greatest highlight as a Chamber Chairman was to see the continued resolve of the Chamber and local businesses adapting to the current situation. M Derrick mentioned that everyone has had to think outside of the box, likewise the Chamber has had to adapt and strive towards greater use of technology, greater use of social media and other platforms to get the Chamber voices heard and communicate with our audience.

### **Welcome, Chairman's Report**

The Chairman's Report was adopted by the meeting.

**Proposed by:** Rachel Brown

**Seconded by:** Stuart Foster

No vote against - Carried unanimously

### **2. Minutes of the AGM held on 4 June 2019**

These were agreed as a true record and there were no matters arising.

**Proposed by:** Simon Marks

**Seconded by:** Simon Studd

No vote against - Carried unanimously

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

S Marks tabled a P&L report to the meeting for year ending 31 January 2020. Income totals £6,128 – membership and breakfast receipts comprised the main income. Expenditure – £6,666 mainly website costs and secretarial/bookkeeping. Loss for the year was £538 but surplus carried over in the bank amounted to £1,500.

Income membership standing order of £20.00 per month amounts to £1,303 and annual membership of £85.00/£42.50 for charity status amounts to £1,313, Main source of income is the Breakfast Club £2,670 offset against cost of breakfast £1,485. The Breakfast Club makes a profit for the Chamber of over £1,000 a year, our main source of income.

Expenditure – mainly website costs and secretarial/bookkeeping. Secretarial support Paula does a lot of work she doesn't charge for and at a low hourly rate. Website and website hosting for Madison.

The Treasurer's Report is available on request.

The Treasurer's Report was adopted by the meeting

**Proposed by:** Simon Studd

**Seconded by:** Stuart Foster

No vote against - Carried unanimously

### **4. Nominations, elections and details of the Committee 2020/2021**

**Chairman:** For this section, Chairman M Derrick handed over proceedings to P Gander to conduct the election of Chairman.

**Chairman: M Derrick** stands down from the role of Chairman and offers himself for the position of Vice Chairman



**Proposed by:** Matt Gray  
**Seconded by:** Rachel Brown  
No vote against - Carried unanimously

**Vice Chairman:** Simon Studd stands down from the role of Vice Chairman and offers himself for the position of Chairman

**Proposed by:** Stuart Foster  
**Seconded by:** Mark Styles  
No vote against - Carried unanimously

**New Chairman:** For this section, Chairman S Studd carried over the proceedings.

**Treasurer:** Simon Marks stands down from the role of Treasurer and from the Committee and hands over the position of Treasurer to Mark Derrick who offers himself for election.

**Proposed by:** Paula Gander  
**Seconded by:** Simone Glazer  
No vote against - Carried unanimously.

**Other Committee members who are due for re-election on a rolling 3 year basis are:**

**Grahame Bannister**  
**Proposed by:** Sarah Rebello  
**Seconded by:** Rachel Brown  
No vote against - Carried unanimously

**Rachel Brown:**  
**Proposed by:** Mark Derrick  
**Seconded by:** Sarah Rebello  
No vote against - Carried unanimously

Eddie Gregory has offered himself for election to the Committee as a Committee Member.

**Proposed by:** Paula Gander  
**Seconded by:** Matt Gray  
No vote against - Carried unanimously

**5. The new Committee 2020/21 therefore comprises**

Simon Studd	-	Chairman
Mark Derrick	-	Vice Chairman
Mark Derrick	-	Treasurer
Paula Gander	-	Secretary
Grahame Bannister		Webmaster
Rachel Brown	-	Committee Member
Matt Gray	-	Committee Member
Eddie Gregory	-	Committee Member

**Simon Studd handed back to Mark Derrick**

M Derrick thanked S Marks for his work as Treasurer on behalf of the Chamber and Committee.

As a token of appreciation and recognition of his work a £25 voucher for Harveys Brewery will be sent.

**6. Chairman's Award – Mark Derrick**



M Derrick commented on the Chairman's Award. In the absence of the Seahaven Business Awards whereby the Chairman stands up and gives our own Peacehaven Chamber Chairman's Award I would like to carry out the award during our AGM Meeting. Sometimes in the Chamber people do really great things that are instantly recognizable and deservedly they get awarded for their achievements. My final Chairman's Award goes to somebody who has been involved in the Chamber since inception some 14 years. This gentleman is in the twilight of his career and every time he meets people in the Community he is always eager to promote the Chamber. Talking about the benefits of the Chamber, he truly believes in the organisation and what we do to build relationships, networking and supporting businesses. This person has held positions on the Committee and these days gets greatly involved in local charities, local food banks, homeless etc. and generally helping the Community. He hasn't had the best of health but back to strength now. This year our Chairman's Award will go to Phil Howson of Howson & Sons. The award will be engraved and myself and Paula will present to Phil at his house and take photographs and share with the Chamber.

## 7. The Year Ahead - Simon Studd

S Studd outlined his vision for the year:

S Studd commented as follows "It has been a turbulent time in 2020 not only in business life but personal life as well, with these unprecedented times we are going through and will continue to go through. It is hard sometimes to see any positives but surely there are some there and it has given us time to reflect on our lives, slow down and actually reset and be thankful for some of the things we do have and things we can control as a lot of things happening at the moment are out of our control. Time to realise what we should be thankful for and have, and perhaps some of the things we do take for granted.

We have had to show resilience, determination and pure tenacity to carry on through these times which shows how strong we are and how strong we can be not only as individuals but also as a community and also a Chamber, and if we can carry on those thoughts, feelings and mantras throughout 2021.

The Chamber is here to support and nurture everybody through these hard times as much as possible and look out for each other, even a zoom call or chat over the phone all the members here are happy to help 24x7 and it is important we carry on with that support structure for 2021.

As a Chamber we have come through, we have lost a few members but gained some great new members as well and the plan is to continue growing through 2021. To increase our membership and most importantly to retain our current members. You are all important individuals in your own way and all bring something to the Chamber to keep it successful and thriving. It is important that we increase our membership in 2021 so we will be driving member success and bringing on new businesses very shortly. Who knows when we will get back to having a breakfast but until such time we will need to carry on and persevere with the zoom calls and continue to pass business between ourselves.

I am pleased to come on board as Chairman in 2021 and look forward to growing the Chamber with some exciting times ahead. We hope to include quite a few old and new events in the coming year such as bowls, wine tasting etc and other days out. We have shared some great trips together in the past with the Rampian Wind Farm and Houses of Parliament and look forward to putting these on again".

## 8. Close of formal meeting



The meeting closed at 8.32 am.

## 9. Open Discussion

- a) Stuart Foster asked about the monthly £20 membership currently being paid without receiving the breakfast. S Studd responded and said the money is being recorded and to say thank you to members free events will be arranged, whenever possible.
- b) M Derrick reiterated that the Chamber did not want members to drop off the radar and if there were people struggling with the cost of membership the Committee was here to help. Either contact Paula or any member of the Committee who will engage with you to see what we can do to help around the fees. All Chamber Committee members are open and understand the situation and are here to support you as we are all in this together.