Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held on Tuesday 6th June 2017

at Woodies, Peacehaven Golf Club at 8.00am

Attendees:

(Committee)	P Merry	Chairman
	M Derrick	Vice Chairman
	H Macaulay	Treasurer
	R Brown	Secretary
	N Enever	Chamber Ambassador
	S Studd	Committee Member
	G Bannister	
	C Bray	
	P Yates-Smith	
	C Allum-Antilles	
	P Davies	
	C Chandler	
	S Foster	

Apologies: S Marks
C Fleming
G Maskell

1. Welcome, Chairman's Report.

P Merry welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Committee were thanked individually for their work and assistance over the last year. Membership was fairly static at around 45 members. Breakfast Club speakers were summarised and the changes to the breakfast club chair. Joint Chamber events such as the Seahaven Business Awards and the Karting Challenge were discussed.
The Chairman's Report was adopted by the meeting.
Proposed by: N Enever
Seconded by: C Bray seconded
Carried unanimously.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 7 June 2016

The minutes of the last AGM were agreed as a true record. However, C Bray pointed out a technical error in the recording of the voting – where minuted as unanimous, but did not specify whether the proposal was carried or not. Whilst in each case, the vote was positive the minutes should be changed to reflect that. Therefore against each proposal, the minutes would be changed to state 'carried unanimously'.'
Proposed by: C Bray
Seconded by: M Derrick
Carried unanimously.

3. Treasurer's Report

The accounts had been circulated with the Notice of Meeting to all members, however no paper copies were available at the meeting. HM confirmed that a further copy would be e-mailed to all those present for the record. In summary, the Chamber had made a profit over the last year and the breakfast club continued to be the best source of revenue for the Chamber. If any member had queries relating to the accounts, they can e-mail HM direct.

The Treasurer's Report was adopted by the meeting.
Proposed by: R Brown
Seconded by: C Bray
Carried unanimously.

4. Nominations, elections and details of the Committee 2017/18

The secretary had received no other nominations for election to the Chamber Committee from those listed.

Chairman: P Merry stands down from the role of Chairman and from the Committee, but before handing over to Vice Chairman M Derrick, it was necessary to re-elect him to the Committee on the rolling 3 year basis. M Derrick stands for re-election to the Chamber Committee.
Proposer: H Macaulay
Seconder: S Foster
Carried unanimously.

Following Mark Derrick's re-election to the Committee he now offered himself for the position of Chairman.
Proposer: H Macaulay
Seconder: C Bray
Carried unanimously.

The roles of individuals are discussed and decided in Committee. However, there being no other nominations, Simon Studd has agreed to take the position of Vice Chairman. As he is not due for re-election this year, there is no requirement to propose or second this appointment.

Other Committee members who are due for re-election on a rolling 3 year basis are:
Helen Macaulay
Proposed by: C Bray
Seconded by: S Foster
Carried unanimously.

Rachel Brown
Proposed by: C Bray
Seconded by: P Merry
Carried unanimously.

Christian Fleming
Proposed by: P Merry
Seconded by: C Bray
Carried unanimously.

One new nomination had been received to join the Committee as follows:

Grahame Bannister – had agreed to join the Committee as Websmaster.
Proposed by: C Bray
Seconded by: P Davis
Carried unanimously.

The new Committee therefore comprises:

Mark Derrick	Chairman
Simon Studd	Vice Chairman
Helen Macaulay	Treasurer
Rachel Brown	Secretary
Grahame Bannister	Webmaster
Nigel Enever	Chamber Ambassador
Christian Fleming	Committee Member
Gary Maskell	Committee Member

M Derrick presented P Merry with a voucher for afternoon tea for two at the Grand Hotel Eastbourne as a token of appreciation from the Chamber Committee in recognition of his 10 years' service. A gift from M Derrick personally was also presented.

5. The year ahead

M Derrick outlined his vision for the forthcoming year and how he wished to focus on the Chamber, working together as a committee. Looking at engaging new members, especially those in the trades, was important. Possibility of putting together a benefits package including insurances (such as that offered by the FSB offer to their members) would be explored. The breakfast club and some key speakers – the Kent/Sussex Air Ambulance were presenting at the next meeting - were the way forward, although ideas were always welcome from members. The golf day organised by P Yates-Smith was an important event for the Chamber, on 4 July.

6. Close of formal meeting

Meeting closed as 8.29.

7. Open Discussion.

- This year was the chamber's 10th anniversary and an event could be organised to celebrate the occasion. Following discussion, P Yates-Smith suggested end of September/ beginning of October would be the best time.
- C Bray questioned the minuting of this element of the meeting as the formal AGM had closed. R Brown responded that the Open Discussion had previously been minuted as ideas submitted by members should be recorded.
- New website – M Derrick suggested the features of the website could be developed: member information that is relevant relating to qualifications, certificates, insurance – the Chamber had the respect from the public and there was a potential to show this. C Allum-Antilles suggested a membership sticker to be used on vehicles and it was noted that the Committee had looked at this previously although not pursued due to lack of funds. However, HM stated the situation had changed and money may now be available. The Committee to consider this further.
- P Yates-Smith suggested some blog articles would help the website. M Derrick mentioned that all members could do a 'Google' review which would enhance the website rankings - everyone was encouraged to do this.
- C Chandler raised a concern that although he knew the new website '5 star' rating related to content, it could be interpreted as a quality mark. There were reasons why members would not achieve 5 stars and his own situation was outlined – but the public would not be aware of this. The Committee agreed to take up the matter with Madison to review.