



Minutes of forum meeting held on Thurs, 2nd July 2009

Apologies: A. Guille, P. Burgess, A. Tortice, T. le Lievre, R. Olsen

The President, P. Tonks, began by outlining discussion at the Council meeting held on 30th June 2009. The minutes of this meeting are on our website, www.sarkchamber.org

With reference to the item about Sark Shipping, the secretary reported that the on-line booking system has now gone live and can be accessed at www.sarkshippingcompany.com We urge members to use the site, which will reduce costs to the company by requiring less staff, and please inform others about the service.

Simon Couldridge was asked to report on the Sark market event, which took place on Saturday, 27th June.

This event was a great success, Simon has had excellent feedback from many who took part or attended. 40 stalls were taken at £5 each and many of these were run for fundraising groups who reported good takings. The local crafts and the food from hoteliers and restaurateurs were of a high standard, and those who provided these services felt it was a good showcase for their skills and standards. Simon had help from many people including Fiona Bird, Kevin Delaney, Bob Parsons who provided all the printing services and many more. He canvassed support for the event by posters and fliers, contacting people in Guernsey, Manche Iles in Jersey, Island FM, BBC Guernsey and Jersey.

The costs of the event were not great as people gave their time and made donations of wine, printing services etc. £445 was taken in fees for stalls and other donations. A discussion took place as to how this money should be used. Simon felt that it all should go to local charities. Cheryl Tonks suggested that the Candles on the Creux event, which will benefit several local charities, should be supported by us buying a commemorative candle for each Sark person named on the Cenotaph. This would be approximately £105. Simon also suggested that £200 should go to Friends of Sark School, which raises money for the school, and the remainder to the Carnival Committee, which raises money for the Professor Saint Medical Fund. This was agreed.

Simon would like thanks to be expressed to all who helped. This will be done by taking a space in the Sark Scribe and by putting posters in shops in the Avenue.

An email had come from the Visitor Officer of Sark Tourism, congratulating Simon on the event and making suggestions for dates for another one later in the season. Long discussion took place about the best time and day but it was left to Simon to consider all the

possibilities and come up with a suggestion. He will need a band of helpers for admin, setting-up and clearing.

Other items:

T. Ventress spoke about the Tourism website vacancy and appointment to replace Jennifer Cochrane who has done the weekly newsletter on the website. This job has gone to Sue Daly. Tony has written to the Jersey Evening Post to ask if a Sark newsletter would be welcomed. This would help to keep Sark in the public eye in Jersey.

Discussion also centred on ways of informing residents of our neighbouring islands about events in Sark, through email. We have a spare web address which could be used.

B. Parsons alerted members to his new publication, The Sark Scribe, which will offer advertising space for Sark businesses.

There will be no meeting in August as it is a very busy month for all local businesses. The next meeting will be on the first Thursday in September.

C. Audrain (Sec)

2.07.09