



WOTTA AGM MEETING MINUTES 25-04-2018

a) WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – ALAN PALMER

- Welcome to everyone who has attended this our 2nd AGM.
- We have had a few apologies and we will be happy to share the presentation and minutes with all contacts after the meeting.
- WoTTA Steering Committee stood to be acknowledged, the team are all volunteers.
- Thanks to Mark Cornish of Snap Sponsorship, Xcel Hub and EBC for hosting our meeting on a complimentary basis to welcome and spotlight the facilities here to our members / attendees.

b) YEAR 2 ACHIEVEMENTS – JOANNA GORDON

- Continue to link our community together – businesses, schools, community groups, residents, and churches. Great cross co-operation with events, meetings and on social media.
- Our Business Plan completed and online.
- Successfully continued to promote good citizens and report ASB, instrumental on the Walton PSPO (Public Spaces Protection Order).
- Delivered the new High Street Banners, Totems and planters – more to come as we work in other areas of Walton.
- Delivered the Walton Heritage Trail which is in the Totems and online.

Social Media:

- Website has seen 127,000 page views with over 42,000 unique visitors
- Facebook now has over 350 followers with a weekly reach 2-2,500K
- Twitter now has over 400 followers with a weekly 18,000K plus we have 2 sub-accounts - @Wottamum and @wottateen

c) FINANCIAL REPORT – GAIL HOSKINS:

Gail the Treasurer reported on year 2 and thanked our many sponsors who have supported events, hosted meetings, provided refreshments, provided volunteers and manpower. We are a not for profit 'community interest company' so all monies raised are used to deliver our events and goals 'making Walton a better place to live and work.'. Current year-end position is just under £6K in the bank.

WoTTA membership is just £50 PA and includes car/premises sticker, online membership directory as well as the networking, lobbying and information sharing benefits we offer.

We can never have enough sponsors and with our increased social media presence there is a good level of raised awareness when involved in our events. WoTTA member businesses get first refusal on all sponsorship opportunities.



d) OFFICIER ELECTION – ALAN PALMER

After the 2017 AGM original WoTTA Director Jo Bailey tendered her resignation due to other commitments. Since then Tracey Blandford has been actively involved in all WoTTA events, meetings and community relations. It was agreed to ask her if she would be interested to take up the role. At the AGM WoTTA Chairman Alan Palmer asked members in attendance if they would propose and second her nomination and willing members did so. Alan also asked if there were any others who would like to stand against Tracey, no-one volunteered. Therefore then a show of hands and it was unanimously voted to select Tracey as Director. Directors serve 3 years.

e) ONGOING PROJECTS – JOANNA GORDON

So many things continue – Walton Trail, Walton in Flower and street furniture improvements – these are small incremental things but we get such positive feedback from the community it is definitely working well.

One big area we are trying to mobilise support from SCC and Thames Water is the bad sewerage smells we were alerted too at our most recent “Big Breakfast”. Works should be taking place in June but there are issues with SCC closing the road. We believe it is a blockage but there is also issues with smells from ‘Fats, Oils and Gases’ and as such we invite businesses involved in food production / retail to come to a meeting on 11th May.

Community Clean-Up's are going well and are now leading a team across Walton and Weybridge to start clean-up of Broadwater Lake, Cowey Sale on the weekend of 23-24 June. We are working closely with Weybridge Society and Walton Society, WI and other community groups to be involved.

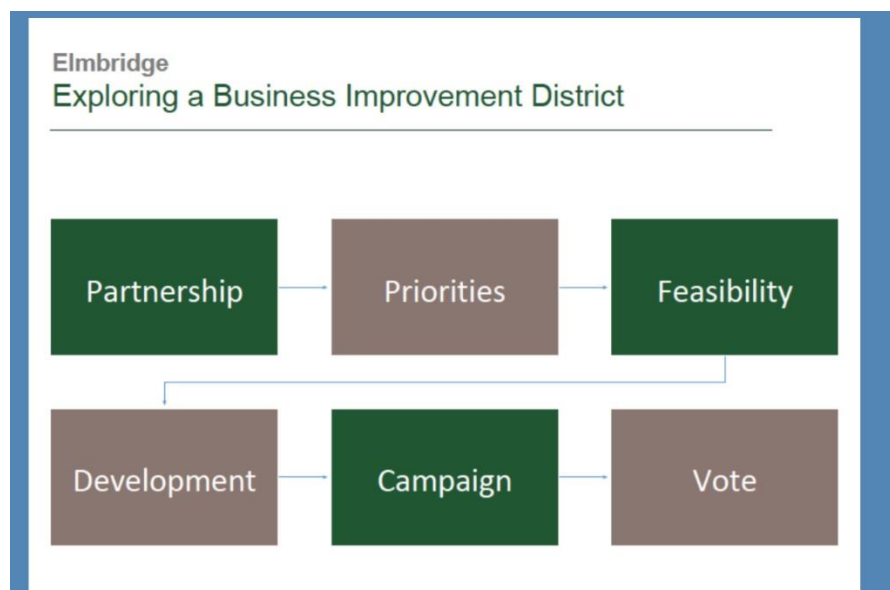
f) THE FUTURE FOR BUSINESSES – DOUG PERKIN, ELMBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

EBC have been very supportive of WoTTA and continue to help us raise awareness of business grants, funding and have approved funding requests for some of our projects. WoTTA is run by volunteers, many of whom run their own businesses or have full-time job and as such we are getting to a capacity issue where we cannot undertake everything we wish to do and that the community bring to us for assistance. As part of our business plan work we have liaised with EBC on understanding what is a BID (Business Improvement District).

WoTTA undertook a sample town survey and attendees at the recent Big Breakfast meeting agreed that the next step for a feasibility study was the way forward. EBC have now agreed funding for this phase we as Economic Development Officer Doug is working to procure professional services to work with WoTTA on this.

Elmbridge
Benefits of a Business Improvement District

- B: Businesses are in control
- I: Investing 100% locally
- D: Decisions are profit led
- S: Supplementing what's already there



g) WHAT CAN YOU DO? – JOANNA GORDON

- Come join us! £50 per year, £25 for sole Traders for the 1st year.
- Attend our Big Breakfast Meetings
- Offer us sponsorship for events, campaigns

h) AWARD PRESENTATION – DANNY O’SULLIVAN, MCDONALD’S

McDonald’s agreed to sponsor this event when created by WoTTA in 2017 and it is for someone who has given their service above and beyond their job role to help make ‘Walton a better place to live and work’. This year, 2018, it has been unanimously agreed to recognise the support, input and effort of Doug Perkin, EBC Economic Development Officer for our Outstanding Community Service Award.

i) QUESTIONS & ANSWERS – ALAN PALMER

We opened the floor to Questions / Comments:

Q: How successful was the Easter Hunt?

A: Very well, had over 45 children who collected eggs from Sainsbury’s, families really enjoyed taking part. We may run this over Easter weekend in 2019 but have a ‘Spring Parade’ event so we can include schools and community groups who could not commit because it was a Bank Holiday weekend.

Q: Broadwater Clean-up – how far will you get, what timescales

A: It will be a long project as we need eco-survey’s to ensure we do not disturb the birds / animals in the lake. We have scheduled the weekend of the 23-24 June starting 10am both days to clear the watercourses leading from the western end (Cowey Sale) of the lake. People who just simply want to help do not need attend but instead should register that they are coming and confirm the garden tools that they can bring with them (e.g. spades, shovels, rakes, shears, etc.) by email to alan.wotta@gmail.com

We are desperately in need of a petrol chainsaw or two along with experienced operators!

Q: We have experience of BID and want to ensure it does not simply take over what EBC do now

A: We have heard this from other BID towns (Oxsted, Epsom) and will ensure we have a list of current deliverables before we complete any marketing / campaigning. We value the input of other businesses who have experience of BID’s including Staines and Richmond and really want to work together to ensure the feasibility study reflects the wishes of businesses in Walton.