

Skipton Chamber of Trade & Commerce

MINUTES OF MEETING

DATE: Wednesday 29th April, 2015

VENUE: Midgley Motors, Keighley Road, Skipton

TIME: 5.30pm



PRESENT: **Executive:** Hazel Maxfield, (C & H Brown), Chris Cooper (Alan Northrop Ltd), Wendy Lawson (Secretary)

Members: Wendy Bateson (Broughton Hall Estate), Liz Preston (Craven Safety Services), Verner Wheelock (Verner Wheelock Associates), Jeff Bond (Midgley Motors), Paula and Pete Twist (Urban Living Property Management)

Speaker: Will Midgley, Midgley Motors

APOLOGIES: Billy Moffat, Interim President/Treasurer (Reid Moffat & Co Ltd), Tracey Weston (Blue Fin Insurance), Felicity Green (AWB Charlesworth), Dave Parker (Skipton Town Council), David Llewellyn and Victoria Whitehead (Tyro Training), Brett Butler (STC), Amanda Casey (Rendezvous Hotel), Paul Mason (Pearson & Associates), Johanna Wood (Spear Travels), Paul Morgan-Roach (Verus Solutions), Chris Fenton (Herriots Hotel), Paul Keyworth (Clean Cut Gardening), Mary Simpson (Manifest Marketing), Katie Davison (Bizzie Lizzie's), Judy Probst (Skipton Town Ambassador/Skipton Town Partnership), Amie Capstick (The Coniston Hotel), Paul Mason (Pearson and Associates), David Llewellyn (Tyro Training), Jo Warden (Cancer Research), Angela Cooper (Brooksbank Valves Ltd), Sheila and Michael Cook (TN Cook Ltd), Roland Wohlrapp Morris Associates Ltd, Joanne Driver and Kelly Dixon (Amelia's of Skipton), Ann Harding (Carlton House B&B), Adam Dutton (Shepherd Partnership), Andrew Spratt (Physiofusion Ltd), Julian Kaye (Wright Wine Company), Andrew (Snape Munroe), Mark Byron (Le Caveau), Lyn Creasey (LYNC HR Ltd), Katie Davison (Bizzie Lizzie's), Bill Haigh (Willie Haigh Consulting Engineer Ltd), Jeff Bond (Midgley Motor Cars), Jane Ellison-Bates (Manifest Marketing), Rob Whitehead (Armstrong Watson), Andrew Higgins (Billy & Bertie's and Healthy Life Natural Food Centre), Robert Stead (Rockwood House), Calvin Caspar (Harry Garlick), Amanda Helliwell (Physiofusion Ltd), Tim Forman (Forman Consulting Ltd), Richard Purnell (ME Smarter Mortgage Services), Dave Overend (Co-op Funeral Services)

The meeting commenced at 5.55pm

WELCOME:

Wendy thanked members for attending and for Will Midgley and Jeff Bond for hosting the event at the showroom. She apologised for such a low turnout – a number of members had sent in apologies that day.

Adoption of the minutes from the previous members' meeting:

The minutes from the previous meeting on 25th February, 2014, held at Swadford Street Centre, Skipton were adopted.

Matters for Discussion:

Future events:

Wendy mentioned that there were some lovely events due to take place in Skipton in the coming months and reminded those present that they were listed in the Skipton Town Guide. She hoped that members would be able to benefit from the huge number of visitors coming to Skipton as a result of these events being made available.

Here are a list of forthcoming Skipton events; they are also listed on page 31 of the Town Guide:

- Waterways Festival Saturday 2nd 'til Mon 4th May
- Skipton Beer Festival Thursday 28th 'til Saturday 30th May
- Le Petit Depart – Cyclo Sportive Sunday 31st May
- Skipton Car Show Sunday 7th June
- Skipton Charities Gala Saturday 13th June
- Magna Carta 800th Anniversary Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th June
- Skipton Sheep Day Sunday 5th July
- Clogfest Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th July
- Skipton Fake Festival Saturday 15th August
- Art in the Pen Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th August
- Oxfam Trailtrekker Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd August
- Battle Of Britain Parade Sunday 13th September
- Yarndale Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th September
- Skipton International Puppet Festival Friday 2nd until Sunday 4th October
- Remembrance Day Parade Sunday 8th November
- Skipton Christmas Light Switch On Thursday 26th November
- Yuletide Festival & Christmas Market Sunday 6th & Sunday 13th December

Speaker: Will Midgley – Midgley Motor Cars

Will expressed thanks to those who came along to the showroom event. He explained that there were a couple of vehicles available for members to test drive, however before that he'd prepared a PowerPoint presentation which offered advice and information about the economic benefits of purchasing a hybrid car.

Will provided a description of how the car functioned, i.e. working from petrol or diesel in combination with the electric motor. He explained that there were a lot of misconceptions about the vehicle running out of electric charge and bringing the vehicle to a halt. He said in our more rural areas, there were not the stop fast charge points available, as in City areas, however, there were various methods available to recharge and the vehicle always had the more traditional backup method available for drive.

He explained that the Mitsubishi PHEV Outlander was currently the only four wheel drive vehicle which could run on electric and as such it was much sort after. For a 36 mile commute, this would be possible to run on just electric, however, for those travelling further, they would still use a portion of petrol or diesel propulsion and the economy of the vehicle was around 40 MPG.

Will went on to talk about grants available to businesses choosing to lease and purchase Hybrid vehicles.

These currently included a contribution to installation of the charger.
To fast charge the vehicle would take 5 hours overnight and it worked out around £1 per night to do that.

Road tax was free. He explained that it was the only SUV which qualified for £5000 grant from the government.

There were tax benefits involved in running a hybrid vehicle also. Will handed out a comparison chart comparing the vehicle with the Audi & Avant to demonstrate.

Will also compared the vehicle to the Landrover Discovery and gave information about further grants and savings.

Will hoped that he had helped to explain the commercial benefits to business owners for looking at one of these vehicles as their fleet vehicle and answered any questions members had.

All present were impressed with the level of savings that could be achieved and eagerly anticipated test driving the vehicles.

The group was split into two. Alan Northrop Printers, Broughton Hall Estate and Craven Safety Services in one vehicle and Verner Wheelock Associates, C&H Brown and Urban Living Property Management grouped together in the other vehicle. They were asked to take images around Skipton as they test drove the vehicles and the winning group would be offered to take the vehicle home for a weekend.

On return the photographs were submitted to Wendy, Secretary. However, Will very generously offered all those present at the event the use of the vehicle for a weekend each. Members were very grateful for such an offer.

Photographs were uploaded to the [Flickr site](#) and posted on the [Chamber Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) pages. They are available to view by clicking on the links.

Any other business:

No other matters were raised

Before the meeting was brought to a close Wendy thanked members again for attending; she expressed thanks to Will and Jeff, that they had been happy to continue, despite the low take up on the meeting and thanked them for the lovely food they had provided and packs provided for each attendee.

The meeting was brought to a close at 7.30pm

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 26th May 2015, 5.30pm
Venue: Herriots Hotel, Broughton Road, Skipton
AGM
AGM
Subject: **AGM – and focussing on the future of the Chamber**