CHAMBER REPORT

At the Chamber meeting on the 3rd February there was healthy discussion on various subjects.

Traffic issues were a hot topic with the temporary left turn only from Gilston Road, in the main, seen as having a positive impact on the junction but it was noted that there are still drivers turning right. The free flow of traffic in Burraton Road was seen as an issue at peak periods.

Westcountry Fabrications were complimented on the planters now positioned at the far end of Gilston Road which seems to have stopped some of the 'on verge' parking that previously occurred. It is understood that more all-day parking is now happening on the access road to Pillmere and this is becoming an issue with residents.

It was reported that the main works to the tunnel would not now start until September and this was seen as a positive from a previous scenario that the work would be taking place in the summer having been deferred from 2014.

The Chairman reported on the work of the Town Team and that contractors, had now been appointed by STC to carry out the greening and wayfinding work. He also reported on the issue re. the memorial bench and its location within the site of the proposed market which is due to start on the $16^{\rm th}$ March and be on the $3^{\rm rd}$ Saturday of the month for a total of 6 months. Members were pleased that matters were progressing and the issue of the bench had been overcome for the trial period.

Hilary Frank then talked about the initiative, under the Shop Local banner, of the Magic Tenner and that this would run for a fortnight leading up to the 16th March, market day. M/s Frank would be visiting shopkeepers in the forthcoming days to generate support and see what traders could offer as a special deal in the fortnight.

The Chairman/M/s Frank also reported on the meeting they had with the Mayor re. the Christmas Lights and the Christmas Festival. The two events are to be kept separate but the Chamber had offered to help the Town Council to make more of an event of the lights switch on.

Members were also informed of the work being carried out to have a town brochure. This would include details of walks in the town and various places of importance as well as a road map etc. The work on this should be completed by Easter and was aimed at the tourist market as well as possible inclusion in the pack handed out by estate agents to house buyers.

The Chairman also reported on an independent survey which had been carried out on the town comparing ourselves with the five largest towns in the County and we fared well in comparison therewith and by national statistics.

End of report Chairman of Saltash Chamber of Commerce