



Saltash and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry



CHAIRMAN PETER RYLAND

The Chamber meeting was relatively short this month due to most items being updates and a shortage of members present due to other business/family commitments. However, those present did have meaningful discussion on various matters including the hopeful success of the Christmas lights switch-on/late night shopping event on the 14th November organised by STC which was being assisted by the Chamber. It was hoped that this would not impact on the Chamber's Christmas Festival which is on the 6th December. It was hoped that many would attend both.

Brenda Samuels was able to explain the situation with the Saturday markets and how the cancellation of the September market had potentially caused a few issues re. the TRIP funding but it was hoped to overcome them. Brenda then explained that alternative indoor locations were being considered but it was agreed that the Guildhall was too far down Fore Street and there were difficulties re. the opening availability of the Social Club but David Hobbs said that, as Treasurer, he might be able to assist. On other Town Team issues members were informed on the progress of the survey of all business rates payers in and around the town centre to ascertain the appetite for a potential BID. At a previous meeting the question of bread availability in the town centre was raised. I informed members that I had spoken, as promised to Steve Baker who had said there was no profit in bread unless more specialist breads were sold and he didn't have the oven capacity for such. Rows do not, it seems, do other than bread rolls. I undertook to do further research. The question had been raised initially following the success of the Early Bird stall at the Saturday market. Members were told that the new accounting system was up and running and Pete Samuels then explained that he was hoping to get the website better populated, based on the membership information, in the new year when, hopefully, members would have more time to assist with information. Discussion then turned to the further membership drive and that it was encouraging that we had several new members this year but it would be helpful to have more at the monthly meeting so that alternative opinions could be gleaned. The draft of the new window sticker logo was tabled and approved so I said that I would organise such.

Martin Lister offered to lay the poppy wreath at the Memorial Service. Finally, a brief discussion took place re. the idea of a resident's card for Saltash which could be used as a promotional card as well as perhaps offering a discount. I explained that I had done some research and the My Bay card in Torbay seemed to be a good example. The idea of the resident's card would be to expand on the former Saltash Card. I would continue to research.