

Annual Report – Saltash Chamber of Commerce

Unfortunately, once again we had to cancel the street market in the Christmas Festival due to the poor weather and re-jig some of the other elements but what was achieved was well received. We also worked with the Town Council on the Christmas Lights Switch on event. This went relatively well and was well attended by the community. The new lights were a pleasure to see but some work will need to be done to sort out the acoustics for this years event.

The Chamber membership continues to grow and many more businesses are expressing interest in our activities but attendance at our monthly meetings remains low. Several of our members are also members of Town Team (reported separately), albeit some with their Town or Cornwall Council hats on, and have been busy in that respect. We have, over the years, helped many members, and indeed other businesses, with their lease renewals and rent reviews and have managed to keep rental levels relatively low.

This has benefited the town in three ways:-

- 1.To some traders it has meant the difference between making a profit or breaking even
- 2.There is a high occupancy rate of units both in the Town Centre and on the Business estates
- 3.As the evidence of rentals passing is used by the Government in setting the rateable values of business units, the rateable values are relatively low and hence business rates payable are low

During the year we have made representations re the possible privatisation of Newquay Airport, Bridge tolls and the roadworks on the A38 and Saltash Tunnel

Peter Ryland
Chairman
Saltash Chamber of Commerce

End of report