

CHAMBER REPORT

Saltash and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry met on the 2nd May 2023 (a day later than normal due to the Bank Holiday) and welcomed a potential new member, Neil Jeffrey.

Members were informed that the proposed CCTV system for Fore Street had been put on ice as there was some talk that the Tolvaddon Monitoring Centre may be closing. Saltash Town Council had therefore decided to look again at their proposals. Several members reiterated the benefits of providing shopkeepers with individual systems which could have the external cameras having a provision where they could be monitored independently by the police in the case of an incident. The correct positioning of 8/10 systems would not only cover the whole of Fore Street but also the rear areas of the shops and the interior thereby monitoring any shoplifting. After the meeting, the Chairman was asked to write to the Town Council on this basis, as there could well be cost saving benefits as well. Members were also told of the work of Saltash Traders Against Retail Crime (STARC) whereby shopkeepers get an alert if there is suspicious activity in Fore Street.

A brief update was given as to the result of Cornwall Council's consultation on car parking charges. Some of the members were of the opinion it might be beneficial to look again at a scheme whereby car parking costs could be subsidised for shoppers.

Sarah Martin gave an update on the Safe A38 Scheme and that funding was not available and plans had been pushed back for 5 years re. the upgrading of the road. She also mentioned that the Town Council was still seeking, at least, some minor amendments to be brought forward re. some of the dangerous spots along the existing road.

The Chairman also raised the work being carried out by consultants on behalf of the Town Team, of which he is Acting Chairman at the present time. Some of the members had been invited to meetings whereat the consultants put forward early ideas of the various areas in and around Fore Street which were being considered. The Chairman informed members that full public consultation would be taking place in June by which time the consultants would have more definitive ideas. However, a stand had been booked at May Fair to ascertain other initial comments.

End of Report
Chairman of Saltash Chamber of Commerce