

# FINAL



Federation of Small Businesses (Stroud Branch)

**119/05**

Branch Committee Meetings are held on the First Thursday of the month starting at 7.00pm with a target duration of 2 hours.

*All Branch members are welcome.*

## *Minutes of Stroud Branch Meeting- 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010 at Whitminster Hotel*

### **Present:**

<i>Dave Middlemiss (DM)</i>	<i>Chair</i>
	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Steve Powell (SP)</i>	<i>Vice Chair</i>
<i>Roger Sillick (RJS)</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Others Present</i>	<i>Chris Usher (CU), Susie Haigh (SH), Simon Herbert (SHT), Anthony Burton (AB)</i>
<i>Guest</i>	

### **1. Apologies**

Terry Morgan and Mike Lawrence gave their apologies

### **2. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as true record.

### **3. Matters Arising**

There was no matters arising

### **4. Regional Committee**

Nil to report

### **5. Chairman's Report**

- DM reported that he and SP had attended the Stroud Life Business Awards on behalf of the branch, a very successful evening giving the branch good PR.
- DM reported that he is attending a meeting with R Small of SDC to discuss promoting the District and how the branch could get more involved with Stroud Project and alike, SP will also be attending. This is a follow on from previous discussions in regards to work done by the Creating Wealth Syndicate.

### **6. Secretary's Report**

- The branch membership currently stands at 815 as at May figures.
- DM produced a copy of a letter received from the Leader of the District Council in response to the issues raised at the signing of the accord meeting.

### **7. Treasurers Report**

- ML created a branch forecast of expenditure for 2010.
- Consideration was given to arranging a better system for paying for branch meetings, it was agreed that once ML is in attendance that this matter would be considered further.

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### 8. Policy & Lobbying

- a. DM explained the current situation with Stroud Project and confirmed his meeting with SDC on the 9<sup>th</sup>.
- b. SP explained the current situation with 'Keeping Stroud Open'
  - Shop in Stroud website up and running
  - Requested that business link this site to theirs
- c. SH agreed to provide a list of members located in Stroud Town to help SP better identify which members are affected by the road works.
- d. SP reported back on the meeting with the National Secretary at the Regional Office, SH also read out the key points raised by the meeting. These are available via the Regional Office.

### 9. Press & PR

DM explained that Stroud Life wants to work closer with the branch, DM is meeting with the Editor, date TBA.

### 10. Branch Plan

Nil to report

### 11. Events

- a. New Members event – Go Bananas, date TBC but looking at Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of August, costs £250 for Venue Hire/disco, £5 PH for food. Cost to be £15 for members; new members free, SP/DM to get a flyer/newsletter out ASAP.
- b. Stroud Show – RJS updated the committee on the arrangements for the show, it was agreed that last years position was not suitable, RJS to arrange for a more central position. Booking fee for the pitch is authorised if our pitch can be moved, RJS to confirm ASAP so ML can arrange payment. Committee members are requested to help on the day and to inform RJS of their availability ASAP.

### 12. Newsletter

DM/SP preparing and will include new members event.

### 13. Any Other Business

- a. AB explained that a new campaign about stress is being launched by the NHS called Let's Talk Service. Suggested that we should advise our members, to be included in the next newsletter and get the team to present at the next series of seminars.
- b. SP informed the committee that Thomas Keeble School with the Stroud Chamber of Commerce is creating a junior chamber and is raising money for cancer research. We have been asked to help with sponsorship of £20 of a table tennis tournament. All agreed to sponsorship of £20.
- c. DM advised that he still had the vouchers of £100 from last year. All agreed to give the school £50 worth of the vouchers and the other £50 would be split between the Stroud Show and the new members evening.
- d. SH also requested that £80 being donated to Stroud in Bloom, all agreed.
- e. CU agreed to be responsible for taking the minutes in futures.

### 14. Next Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> September Venue TBC