

Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce – Ashford Economic Development Group

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the AEDG held at Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, Ashford on 17th August 2023 at 8.30am.

PRESENT:	NAME	POSITION
	Nettie Buss	Chair
	Richard Stafford	
	Richard Lavender	
	Lee Collette	
	Maria Callow	
	Sharon Norman	
	Tom Jenkins	
	Tim Sheppard	
[APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED FROM:]	Jason Rainbird	

1. NOTICE AND QUORUM

The chair reported that enough notice of the meeting had been duly given and that a quorum was present. The chair declared that the meeting was open.

2. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

A draft of the minutes of the board meeting held on 20th July 2023 was sent prior to the meeting. It was agreed to approve this draft without amendment and the chair was authorised to sign them as a complete record of the relevant meeting.

The chair still needs to follow up with the Chamber re AEDG www presence.

3. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

1. **Preparations for the DG Meeting next month.**

The points raised to be discussed were as follows;

Specific – Skills & Recruitment

- Professional Services
- Apprenticeship and retention of staff
- Exams
- Business Community
- Want to be a flagship for this type of work / skills (EKC involvement)

Also;

Eurostar / Pot Holes / Brock / Charing / Stodmarsh / Town Centre (Parking)

2. **Guests for Charing Development to discuss.**

Jon Lam and Robert Prince joined the meeting to discuss their plans for a retirement village on the outskirts of Charing. A discussion followed with regards to jobs, amenities, health care, number of units etc. The guests advised that they wanted to 'start small'. The board thanked them for their time and RL has written a letter to advise that until we are in possession of the full facts and an application we are not in a position to comment or support.

4. NEXT MEETING

29th September 2023 @ 10am @ KiCC

5. CLOSE

There was no further business and therefore the chair declared that the meeting was closed.

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Chair – Nettie Buss - Date