



Boscastle

Chamber Of Trade & Commerce

MINUTES GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 12th November 2025
The Riverside

Present: Chris Searle, Ross Yates, Nick Chater, Mukesh Maher, Dawn and Gavin Stride, Helen Waters, Michele and Enzo Taylor, Fergus Moffat, Nikki and Ray Nash, Jon Stewart

1. Apologies: Simon Costin, Rita Bailey, Steve Coom, Adam Benjamin, Jo Tapper, Simon Costin
2. Quorum
Chair Ross Yates notified the members that the meeting was quorate being that 8 or more members were present of which 2 are from the current executive committee, therefore, the meeting continued.
3. Minutes of the last meeting
Proposed by Ross, seconded by Chris. All in favour.
4. Matters arising from the previous meeting
None.
5. June meeting cancelled
The chair notified Members that the June meeting was not quorate being that 8 members. Accordingly, meeting can moved forward by presenting information and reports with the understanding that there would not be a vote on matters and that no decisions can be made. The following items were discussed:
 - a. Update from Boscastle CIC
An update regarding the financial situation and the toilets were given to the Members. Continued discussions with the new Cornwall Councillor and Council are ongoing. In the meantime, the Parish Council have contributed £1500 towards the onward provision of the toilets. However, the CIC is unable to finance any other community projects in the meantime.
 - b. Membership
Gavin gave an update on the membership numbers following the renewal for the new year.
 - c. Retail crime

Members discussed the recent increase in retail crime and the use of CCTV to support each other. Members can gain more information and resources from Devon and Cornwall Police and opportunity was given to highlight the BCTC WhatsApp group.

6. Update from Boscastle CIC

In extensive conversations with Cornwall Council, they proposed adding 20p onto each tariff charge from 17th September 2025. This will bring back the opportunity to have the levy reinstated in arrears with the first part payment in April 2026 and the full levy being available for April 2027, 2028, and 2029. The final payment would be April 2029 as this administration can only fulfil the funding whilst they are in post. Subsequent agreements would need to be considered at the next administration. The CIC is still in a funding crisis having used all reserves and that funding does not seem to be normalised until April 2027.

7. Christmas

Shop bingo and Christmas light switch on is coming back - Friday 5th December. Shops are encouraged to stay open late to encourage shoppers, and the format follows the same as years gone by with support from the children of Boscastle School, Boscastle Buoys and Harbour Rowing Club. Dan has kindly offered his support in supplying the lobster pots to create the tree and the lights are due to be tested next week. It was proposed by Nick, seconded by Gavin, that a budget for replacement of lights to be set £150 should any replacements or repairs be necessary. All favour.

8. Training

First aid certificates that were facilitated by the Chamber will be expiring over the winter period. Therefore, the courses will be re-run for level 2 and a gauge of interest for level 3 can be expected to be advertised early in the new year. These will be run at cost for Members.

9. WhatsApp group

There was a discussion about the inclusion of third parties, particularly the local Police, into the group. However, Members concluded that the closed group is sufficient for the need at the moment.

10. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 11th February 2026 at 6.30pm at a venue to be determined nearer the time. Advance notice that this meeting is the AGM where a general meeting will follow. Should any additional activities or issues arise, additional meetings will be organised and publicised.