

76th Annual General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 11th June 2025

1. PRESENT: Derek Hettenbach (Chair), Susan Bradley (Director), Simon Smith (Financial Director), Oliver Wren (Director), Lisa Marie Mallier (Director), Emma McGregor (Director), Neil Wild (Director), Joanne McMeekin (Member), Paul Keilman (Member), Peter Everett (Member), John Staley (Member).

2. APOLOGIES: Charlotte Keyte (Events Coordinator).

3. ANNUAL REPORT:

Chair Derek Hettenbach reflected on a productive year for the Chamber, noting positive momentum in several key areas.

It is encouraging to see the Board grow, with a warm welcome extended to new Directors Lisa Marie Mallier and Emma McGregor, bringing fresh energy and expertise to the team.

The Chamber continues to champion sustainability and wider business impact — this year, we were proud to sponsor the Cherwell Business Awards, and it was great to see such strong interest and applications from across our membership.

We're pleased to report steady membership growth, with ongoing outreach to larger employers in the region. Events like the BCOC Live! are driving visibility, and it's exciting to see the expo continue to expand. Planning is already underway for the 2025 edition.

It's also been great to see the return of our Larger Business Tours, which offer valuable behind-the-scenes insight and build stronger local relationships.

We've enjoyed a regular newsletter schedule and delivered a strong programme of events, combining both business and social elements. Highlights include joint events with Bicester Vision, a lively bingo night, and our first-ever Christmas party.

Looking ahead, we're keen to build on our partnerships with charitable causes, increase opportunities for members to connect, and continue developing the Chamber as a key voice for Banbury's business community.

4. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

The Financial Director, Simon Smith, circulated the accounts. He then gave a summary of the accounts for the past year. The company's balance sheet looks healthy.

Subscription rates will rise by 5% (rounded).

The accounts for the period up to 31 December 2024, having been circulated, were taken as read and proposed for approval.

5. TO ELECT SIMON SMITH AS FINANCIAL DIRECTOR FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS:

A valid nomination, duly proposed and seconded, had been received for Mr. Simon Smith and was proposed for approval; therefore, he remains in post.

6. TO ELECT DEREK HETTENBACH AS CHAIR FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS:

A valid nomination, duly proposed and seconded, had been received for Mr. Derek Hettenbach, who will continue as Chair.

Signed:



Derek Hettenbach, Chair

Date: 11/6/25