

Chamber Echo

Witham and District Chamber of Commerce

September 2014

Meet the New Chair

May I introduce myself to those of you I have yet to meet, I am Corinne Thompson and from August this year I became the Chair of Witham Chamber of Commerce.

I have inherited and added to a great team of local business people on the committee all with different skills and experiences to call on to cover all aspects of Chamber business, my aspirations and that of the team are for the benefit of our members (you and your business) I hope you will be open with me when I ask questions and provide feedback via our website, email or to me direct.

My primary interests and that of the Chamber is to support Witham business and enable all our member businesses to prosper and grow.

Witham Chamber of Commerce can be proud on having given support to an ever growing business network WITBIZ as well as having provided information and added-value services to our Members. Today Witham Chamber is one with wide range of professional successful businesses. Therefore now would be perfect time to thank ALL committee members for their efforts and loyal support. Especially Joy Vaughan as last year's Chair, one of many achievements has enabled Witham Chamber to develop our website so thank you Joy for a job well done.

I would also like to thank in advance for their on going support Vice Chair Peter Simpkins and Ian Cass as Treasurer both agreeing to continue this year, along with Gerry Gould, Mark Murphy as committee members and Tina Townsend who has agreed to be membership and communication Manager from August this year, plus Lorne Campbell who has now joined the committee. We are in for a busy year.

If you would like to join and support the committee feel free to contact me by email chairman@withamchamber.co.uk or call me on 07958 396918



Membership Renewal

At the AGM it was agreed that there would be no change to the cost of membership, which will remain at £25.00 per year, however, it was agreed that the renewal date for all Membership Subscriptions would be 31st March. It was also agreed that any new members and existing members renewing their memberships "mid term" would be charged pro rata on the following basis:

1 July - 30 Sept - £17.50

1 Oct - 31 Dec - £12.50

1 Jan - 31 March - £ 6.25

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Latest Chamber News

The committee are pleased to announce the introduction of a New Business Club which will be launched in Late September based at The Hub in Newland Shopping Centre.

The purpose of the club is to support all businesses from new start ups to established ventures within the Witham district.



The Club is being run in conjunction with Ignite Business Enterprise who offer a range of services from start-up business planning to more specialised advice for established businesses. Ignite already offer a drop in service at the Hub on Thursday mornings and this new club will be an optional addition.

The club will be free to attend without requirement to book in the early stages and will include contribution from the local business community.

If you are interested in becoming an ambassador for the chamber and can offer some free time to support this venture please let Tina know on 07763 879398 or email membership@withamchamber.co.uk

Further details and confirmation of dates will be posted on the Chamber calendar soon!!



WIW News

Good news for BID 2014-2019

The success of the YES vote for the Witham Industrial Watch Business Improvement District 2014-2019 WIW BID has been well received. “Congratulations” and positive comments from Priti Patel M.P., members of Braintree District Council, Witham Town Council and businesses on the Industrial Watch estates were really appreciated by all those involved in the BID voting process.

The first WIW BID, that ended in July 2014, achieved a tremendous amount in the five years term with benefits to individual business, employees, visitors and potential developers. The BID projects are financed by a levy on every business rate payer in the prescribed BID area and the money is spent to make that area safer, cleaner and more attractive. An estate manager, CCTV and ANPR cameras, gritting, cleaning, security advice and crisis support were instigated thanks to the BID funding. The result has been a notable reduction in criminal activity, an effective way of dealing with unwelcome visitors, increased surveillance and greater interest from potential developers and employers.

WIW BID's success was not automatic, there was no guarantee of a “yes” vote, it was due to the dedication of a team of WIW directors and supporters who work throughout the year to ensure the industrial estate levy payers receive value for money.



Moving Forward

More from the Chair — Our Aspirations and Plans for 2014/15

The Chamber strives to be active, inclusive, service-minded, current and at the same time takes pride in being established partners with Witham Town Council, Witham Town Team and Witham Industrial Watch and now Ignite Business Enterprises

I have a few aspirations I'd like to share them with you now.

Our goals are:

To continue to develop and improve Witham Chamber of Commerce as an organisation utilising skills and expertise of our actively committed committee members

To evolve and expand as a membership organisation attracting diverse and innovative new businesses to be long term Chamber members

To promote and raise the profile businesses in Witham and surrounding areas

To access support to help resolve issues affecting aspiring new and developing businesses in Witham and surrounding area

Members

Develop Membership strategy with wide range of support mechanisms, discounted resources and relevant business services

For New businesses, support via Chamber membership offer of free 6 months promotion

Members Events, Meetings, Networking and Knowhow- Workshops, designed to enable members to reach expertise and seek relevant advice, meet more and make business.

Continue effective Communication strategy through media, press and external relationships, this E-newsletter all designed to raise profile of Witham Chamber and members.

As I said a busy year and we've just got started



What you said

Feedback from the August 2014 Members survey - no surprises; people are looking for adequate low cost / free parking.

If you would like to take part in the September Survey please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SMTMSRQ>

Remember you can also add your comments on the Chamber website forum; www.withamchamber.co.uk

Now tell us your news!

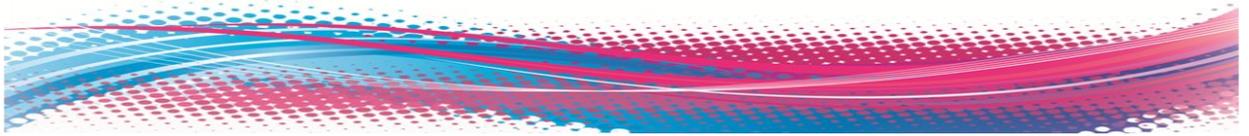
If your planning an event then let us know so we can help publicise it for you.

Maybe you are running a promotion or a competition?

Are you nominated for or have won an award?

Let us shout about it for you!

Member Business Bio



Essex Business Machines started life as a family run business but is rapidly expanding to become much more.

The Managing Director and founder of the business Mick Bailey has over 25 years' experience in this market with extensive technical knowledge gained from his service engineer background.

The company was established in 2005 and has quickly developed an excellent reputation for its exceptional service provision. The company supplies, services, provides maintenance contracts & consumables for an array of office business machines within Essex and the surrounding areas and counties, including London, Kent, Suffolk, Norfolk, Herts, and Beds.



At Essex Business Machines our range of multi-functional mono and colour digital systems and desktop printers is characterised by reliability, high productivity and reduced maintenance cost. Designed to meet the needs of local companies, from home working professionals to small and medium enterprises who require flexibility and good honest local service. Whether you're looking for stand-alone copying, printing, scanning or multifunctional products and document management, you can rely on our range of advanced print technology to keep your business productive and your print costs low. Our friendly, committed and experienced local team take the time to get to know your business – ensuring they deliver the greatest possible value. And with our employees typically serving over 20 years with us, you benefit from that knowledge and familiarity.

Service Agreements

At Essex Business Machines we're committed to providing you with a high quality service experience. Offering value that can be measured, our unique local partnership approach creates bonds that last, so you can be confident your business is in safe hands.

Our Support Promise

Helping organisations, of all sizes, get the most out of their business solutions, we pride ourselves on working with customers to make sure their equipment is an asset rather than a drain on their resources. We also make sure that when issues do arise they are dealt with promptly and professionally. After sales service is what we do best. For more details about our products and services contact us now on:

01376 512575 or mail on: info@ebmltd.co.uk or visit our website: www.ebmltd.co.uk

We want to make this a regular feature, if you want to appear here next month then send your bio to

membership@withamchamber.co.uk

Visit Us on the web at www.withamchamber.co.uk

Or Email us:

Chairman@withamchamber.co.uk

Treasurer@withamchamber.co.uk

Secretary@withamchamber.co.uk

membership@withamchamber.co.uk

