

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the **Annual General Meeting of the Chester, Ellesmere Port & Neston Business Forum** will be held at the County Sports Club, Plas Newton Lane, Chester on Thursday 10 April 2008, as the second part of the Members' Meeting to be held on that date.

Agenda

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of the AGM held on 12th April 2007**
- 3. Chairperson's Report**
- 4. Secretary's Report**
- 5. Treasurer's Report and presentation of accounts**
- 6. Membership Secretary's Report**
- 7. Election of Officers and Committee for the year 2008-9**
- 8. Appointment of Scrutineers for the year 2008-9**
- 9. Any Other relevant Business**

Nominations are invited for officer roles and committee membership:

Name of Candidate	
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Position sought (please tick):

Chair	
Vice Chair	
Secretary	
Treasurer	
Membership Secretary	
General committee member	

	Name:	Signature:
Proposed by:		
Seconded by:		

Date:	
Candidate's Signature	

Please post this form to: John Trimble, Secretary CEPN Business Forum, 2 Glebe Meadows, Mickle Trafford, Chester CH2 4QX to arrive no later than 5pm on Wednesday 26 March 2008.

NEWSLETTER – February 2008

Welcome to the Business Forum's regular Newsletter, covering our February 2008 meeting, and including all usual areas of interest to members.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 13th March 2007 at the Civic Hall, Civic Centre, Civic Way, Ellesmere Port, CH65 0BE, starting 6.30pm for 7.00pm, with usual bar & buffet.

The theme of the next meeting is **"The Chester, Ellesmere Port & Neston Business Forum – meets – The Chester, Ellesmere Port & North Wales Chamber of Commerce."**

This will be a brilliant networking Opportunity for members of both groups, and will be introduced by Lesley George (Forum Chair) and Dave Roberts (Chamber Membership Manager.)

Please note that a £4 levy will be made at this meeting, to cover cost of buffet and raffle entry.

A **speed-networking** opportunity will be run for the members of both groups, giving the members the chance to meet specific targeted individuals after initial "15 seconds of fame" introductions. The session will be overseen by Colin Brown and his excellent vocal projection.

We are always on the lookout for speakers at our meetings, and you can always agree to speak. Contact Les George at chair@cepnforum.org.uk

Members Meeting 14th February 2008

The meeting was a 'MEMBERS ONLY EVENING' which included 5-Minute Presentations from a number of our Members: the theme being 'Who are Our Members & What do they do?'

Our guest speaker was **Jan Rowley, Strategic Director at Chester City Council**, who gave a most interesting and enlightening account of the pending Local Government Review and Restructure, and how it will affect the people of Chester – from April 2009 onwards.

Jan's presentation was followed by **the member participants, who were:**

1. LISA NUTTALL – THE ALOE LADY – A PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION INCLUDING A TASTING & SAMPLING
2. ZENA BARRICK from KIDSGUIDE ON 'HOW TO GET FREE ADVERTISING TO OVER A QUARTER OF A MILLION LOCAL HOUSEHOLDS'
3. DON CRONIN from DAC BUSINESS CRIME RISK MANAGEMENT – 'WORKING TO HELP YOU IDENTIFY & CONTROL THE RISK'
4. SIMON MARTIN from POWER SOLUTIONS - 'HOW TO BENEFIT BY USING A BROKER FOR ENERGY PROCUREMENT'
5. MARGARET CRONIN from DAC CHILDCARE TRAINING – 'Btec @ HOME – QUALIFICATIONS TO FIT YOUR NEEDS'

We also conducted our special Valentines Night raffle, with deserving winners of special prizes!! Another excellent reason to be a Forum member.

Strategic Partnership Update

No meeting to report on this month. Look for a report on the latest Strategic Partnership meeting in our next Newsletter.

Website News

Did you know that the Forum operates a website where your membership and business will be advertised? We can also set up a link to your own website.

Read this Newsletter on the Forum's website, where we had an incredible 1598 visits in the month of February; a figure growing month on month.

Why not log on, visit the site and find details of our strong membership by reading about your fellow members? Is your entry up to date? Do we need to change any member details? Let us know by emailing Mark Ireland-Jones at mark@wirralphoto.com

Members

Our member numbers have grown to 65 following on from last month's meetings.

The Committee is actively promoting the Forum on behalf of the membership, but if you know of any Start-up Businesses or existing SMEs you think will benefit from membership, please don't hesitate to tell them about us, or bring them along to our next meeting!

Member News

Have 200 words about your business published here on our Newsletter. If you have any special offers or events you are planning in the near future, you could publicise them here too.

Please send your 200 words to keith@ehrservices.fsnet.co.uk

Attendance at our monthly meetings

All members receive a copy of this Newsletter now by email. Members are also now sent a reminder email about the meetings approximately one week beforehand. If possible, we would like members to confirm their attendance, or to indicate that they are unable to attend, so that we can cater for correct numbers.

You can help us by emailing the Forum Chair, **Lesley George**, at chair@cepnforum.org.uk. Thank you.

AS YOU CAN SEE ABOVE, WE WILL SOON BE HOLDING OUR AGM, AND ANY INTERESTED MEMBER IS ENCOURAGED TO JOIN OUR HARD-WORKING COMMITTEE, AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE ON-GOING SUCCESS OF THE FORUM.

..... and finally,

don't forget our next meeting on **13th March**.