

Llandudno Business Forum Meeting
7th November 2024 – The Motorsport Lounge

Attendees

Jon Merrick (JM)	jon@mostynestates.co.uk	Mostyn Estates Ltd
Heather Thomas (HT)	Heather.thomas@conwy.gov.uk	CCBC (Conwy County Borough Council)
Amanda Ballance (AB)	amanda.ballance@conwy.gov.uk	CCBC (Conwy County Borough Council)
Edward Hiller (EH)	Edward@mostynestates.co.uk	Mostyn Estates
Dan Worsley (DW)	Danworsley@hotmail.com	X Factory Ltd
William Peedell (WP)	Billy@trancio.uk	Trancio
David Paveley (DP)	Dave@dprs.co.uk	The Motorsport Lounge
Sally Paveley (SP)	Sally@themotorsportlounge.co.uk	The Motorsport Lounge
Cllr Louise Emery (LE)	cllr.louise.emery@conwy.gov.uk	Llandudno Town Council
Adrian Owen (AO)	Adrian.owen@stdavidshospice.org.uk	St Davids Hospice
Alix Donaldson (AD)	Mail@givealittle.co.uk	Give a Little
Elyse Waddy (EW)	sales@empirehotel.co.uk	Empire Hotel
Barbara Wood (BW)	Barbara.wood@barclays.com	Barclays Business

Jon Merrick opened meeting and welcomed all.

Jon thanked Sally and Dave for hosting us at The Motorsport Lounge

Sally provided a brief overview of the organisation. The venue hosts live music events which can be found on their website [Motorsport Lounge - Live Music and Entertainment](#) and can be hired for events

The workshops downstairs are to be developed and will create space for a Guitar Shop, Tattoo Parlour and Vintage Clothes shop

Previous meeting

The last meeting had been dedicated to the proposal to move the Library & TIC to Venue Cymru as part of a Levelling Up bid. The feeling of the Business Forum was that they were against the Proposal. JM asked if there had been an outcome to the Public Consultation. AB advised that there had not at this point or whether the new Labour Government administration will still consider the project.

Agenda

Mobile Phone Signal

Christmas

Mobile Phone Signal

JM had been invited to two meetings by Janet Finch-Saunders with Vodafone and EE both of which had been positive.

Vodafone are in the process of erecting a mast on a building but would not disclose which building although implied not central to town. It had been suggested to them that it would be better to be sited in the middle of town and the offer had been made for the car park at the Victoria Centre. Vodafone will review this but are also looking for 2 further sites in Llandudno. No huge financial benefits now available for siting masts. Vodafone are in merger talks with O2

EE looking at smaller sites for 3 or 4 masts which they hope to have in place for Summer 2025.

Christmas

Kiani from Mostyn had provided the following update with regards to Christmas 2024

A lot of time and work from multiple individuals has gone into the efforts to create a cohesive, public facing programme for Llandudno's Christmas events in 2024, key elements in the proposed programme were unfortunately withdrawn and not enough progress has been made since this point to go live for 2024 however, not all is lost and all the work to date stands us in great stead and buys us time to work towards sending the programme live for 2025 - if anyone thinks they have any resources, services or information that might be helpful to the project, then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

A list of the majority of key events happening in Llandudno through November/December 2024 is detailed below - all businesses/organisations in the list are open to working collaboratively to make this a more town-orientated programme so if you identify any events that you feel you could collaborate, partner or work with to create an enhanced offering, please don't hesitate to get in touch directly or via myself, Kiani@mostynstates.co.uk.

09/11/24

[The Artisan Market Company Christmas Market at Providero Coffeehouse](#), 10:00-16:00

30/11/24

[St. David's Hospice Christmas Fayre](#) at Venue Cymru

[Santa Dash](#) on Llandudno Promenade 9:30-10:30

01/12/24

St. David's Hospice [Tree of Lights 2024](#), 17:00

07/12/24

Victoria Centre Christmas Markets, 9:00-16:00

[Llandudno Christmas Parade](#), 16:00-17:00

[Christmas Panto Opening \(Jack & The Beanstalk\)](#) at Venue Cymru, 14:00

09/12/24-14/12/24

St. David's Hospice [Christmas Tree Festival](#), 10:00-16:00

12/12/24

St. David's Hospice Late Night Opening, 19:30-20:30

14/12/24

Victoria Centre Christmas Markets, 9:00-17:00

[Pop-Up North Wales Contemporary Craft Fair](#) at Mostyn Gallery, 10:30-16:30

25/12/24

[St. John's Church Service](#) 11:00

[St. David's Church Service](#) 10:00

The Christmas Market for 2024 was cancelled by the organisers due to personal circumstances. Going forward Adrian La Trobe from CCBC would be looking at the Christmas Market for 2025.

It was requested that the Business Forum be part of any talks in relation to the future of this event.

The Forum indicated that there were plusses and minuses to the event – JM requested that this be picked up at January Forum.

Cllr Louise also indicated that the Victoria Extravaganza could possibly be at risk

Suggest that businesses be contacted regarding the Contribution of both the Extravaganza and Christmas Market to their business (Positive/Negative)

Updates including impact of recent Budget

JM – Mostyn Estate looking to move forward with plans for former M&S building. Heads of Terms being looked at with an Operator. ME looking to apply to a Regional grant towards the overall cost of £3.5M to refurbish the building.

The development will include the creation on the Ground floor of a Sports bar including Shuffleboards/electronic darts games etc. First floor – 10 Pin bowling and Crazy golf and the top floor to be set aside for corporate hire.

The aim is to create a destination building to improve the evening economy. The town lacks somewhere that provides evening activity for families etc

A request was made for a Letter of Support from the Business Forum – This was approved by the members

Concern following Budget and increase in NIC is that there would be a reduction in businesses workforces

EH – Feel that effect of Budget will delay investment in town.

Regarding unit occupation – all units on Parc Llandudno under offer

Mostyn Champneys – vacant unit has interest

Cautiously positive

DP – Has stepped away from North Wales Motor Company and reactivated his Consultancy business.

As mentioned by SP The Motorsport Lounge is busy. The music events draw people from away to the venue all of whom are supporting local accommodation, pubs and restaurants.

Going forward they will try and measure the economic benefit

EH – Business has been so so with Summer trade OK. With inflation and interest remaining high think things are going to get tougher.

Budget – the increase in NIC and minimum wage will have a huge impact on the business but this will be something they will work round.

The impact of the changes on IHT on businesses has been the hardest element of the budget.

AO – 25th Anniversary events continue [Events - St David's Hospice](#)

The arrival of the Longest Yarn had been an exceptional boost to fundraising. They had run the cafe and had stalls and will also receive a share of the donations collected by The Longest Yarn over the event.

They will run their Christmas Fayre at Venu Cymru on 30/11/2024 and have 100 stall spaces. Last year saw 1500 people attend so they hope to increase on this.

Tree of Lights events detailed [Tree of Lights 2024 - St David's Hospice](#)

Budget – Hospices will have to face the challenges from the increase in NIC/Minimum wage

LE – HAs been appointed Chair of Finance within Llandudno Town Council. Sees this an opportunity to make a big difference.

Gwynt Y Mor Community Fund will fund a Grants Officer

With some of the main services being dropped by the CCBC the Town Council will look to step up to pick these up with support of grant funding. The aim will be to change how the Town Council works. Town Council will look to lead on projects investing in town.

Looking to get Gini involved in a meeting with the Chairman for Decorative Lighting

WP – Business in infancy having celebrated its first year of trading. Looking at trading trends September trading was busier than June/July - Summer seemed quieter for the business
Budget will impact on wage increases that had been considered unfortunately

AD – Group of businesses in Craig Y Don had been working hard to promote the area and increase footfall. They had created a map which was being published which would be distributed around Hotels
They had also developed a website [A warm welcome to Craig-y-Don! | Facebook | Linktree](#)
Hoping that this would see business increase for Christmas

DW – raised the Forums attention to Llandudno Rotary Club which is a Charitable organisations raising monies for local charities/need
Invite made to local businesses to apply to become corporate members – see link to webpage

[Rotary Club of Llandudno - welcome.](#)

Meeting Closed 9.30a.m

Next Meeting

23 January 2025

Venue to be confirmed