



## Chamber of Commerce Link Councillor Report – March 2022

### Cllr. Ashton-König

As recently appointed link councillor to the Chamber of Commerce within Arundel, I have not yet been able to meet with all members of the Chamber Committee. However, I have already renewed my own business membership (which is still £30 a year instead of £50 pre-CV19) and will be meeting with various members, businesses and stakeholders at the upcoming 'Visit Arundel' networking event held at Arundel Castle (Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022).

I already know Sharon Blaikie as she has visited my business to promote the work of the Chamber of Commerce on various occasions. I hope to gain further insight into the numerous projects within the Chambers' calendar and see where Arundel Town Council can help boost their work.

ATC and the Chamber were scheduled to jointly host a co-working event at Arundel Town Hall on Wed 9<sup>th</sup> March. This event is designed to help those who may predominantly work from home and fancy a change of scenery and the ability to network with one another. The venue has now changed to Cabana Verde.

ATC obtained a grant under the 'Welcome back fund' which is being put to use by hosting a market on Tarrant Street, which has previously proved successful over the past year.

The Council has been made aware of complaints relating to traffic cones being used by several businesses, this needs to be addressed with help from the Chamber.

The Chamber are still hosting their networking events at different locations around Arundel, which are held on the first Wednesday of each month, alternating between morning and evening.

ATC have a close working relationship with the Chamber and we need to see how we can encourage other businesses to join, working together to help promote Arundel as a 'Destination'. The town has an excellent variety of diverse business types, our retail sector is widely known for Antiques, however our heritage is as a Market Town (along with Brewing and Printing as our main industries). We now offer an interesting Arts & Crafts scene, boast a hoard of great coffee shops, pubs and eateries, but our main attraction and draw remains the Castle.

Cllr. O. Ashton-König