

From: davidfoley@tekc.co.uk [mailto:davidfoley@tekc.co.uk]
Sent: 01 July 2008 21:36
To: 'admin@tekc.co.uk'
Subject: Thanet & East Kent Chamber weekly bulletin "The Insider"

***** Welcome to the Thanet & East Kent Insider *****

Your Weekly Business Bulletin from Thanet & East Kent Chamber

Thanet & East Kent Insider
1 July 2008

1. Company business

The standard fee for registering a new company in Great Britain at Companies House is just £20.00. But it is little more complicated than it might at first appear. You must complete Form 10, Form 12, sign Articles of Association and provide a Memorandum of Association. Some of the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 are now valid, others will come into force in October 2008 and another set of regulations is due to be implemented in October 2009. You also have to decide what you want to put in your company articles and if you should form a private company limited by shares, a private company limited by guarantee, a private unlimited company or a public limited company. It is not easy to do all this over a pint of Shepherd Neame in the back bar on a wet Tuesday evening. Fortunately, there is a solution - and it is not to fill in the forms on a Wednesday. Chamber member, Levicks Chartered Accountants, offers a comprehensive advice and registration service to launch your new company and can usually finish the whole process within a week for a total fee of £275.00. For details, contact Mark Hurdman on tel: 01843 862716. By the way, it would help Mark if you have already decided on a name that no other company has already registered which means that Tesco, Rolls Royce and Microsoft are out of the question. Interestingly enough, there are currently 109 registered companies that begin with the word "Thanet".

2. Chamber in Deepwater

This Chamber is in debt to Deepwater EU Ltd. We don't owe the company money but we do acknowledge a debt of gratitude to Jim Glyn for raising the question of employment contracts last month. Readers of the Thanet & East Kent Insider will know that we recently featured the EmployAssure scheme offered by Boys & Maughan. We have now completed a guide called "Ten Sources of Advice on Employment Contracts". For a free copy, members are invited to email admin@tekc.co.uk with the subject line "Advice on Employment Contracts". In case you are wondering, Deepwater EU Ltd specialises in the highly technical discipline of off-shore corrosion control. If you ever need cathodic protection testing or sacrificial anodes, then Jim is your man, see www.stoprust.com for details.

3. China Gateway Update

Avid readers will know that we keep in close contact with Commercial Group Properties plc (CGP), the company headed by Ken Wills that is developing the China Gateway at Manston. We even merited a mention in the company's recent annual report. All companies in valid Chamber membership on credit control checkpoint date of 21 July 2008 will be included in the third edition of our preferred supplier register to be presented to CGP at the end of the month. With final planning permission expected shortly for Phase I of the construction, we are looking forward to receiving some good news for local suppliers.

4. Leaflet Distribution Service

This Chamber offers a leaflet distribution service at discounted rates. We undertake to distribute an A5 or pre-folded A4 leaflet to all chamber members. Companies using the service this month are Eurostat, Harrington Associates, Moore Communication, Thanet Trade Fair, Thanet College, Margate Harbour Arm, NFU Mutual and Oyster Press. If you would like to take advantage of this facility, please despatch to us 350 leaflets or leave them at reception at Thanet & East Kent Chamber Ltd, Millennium Way, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2QQ. Please don't forget to include a cheque made out to Thanet & East Kent Chamber Ltd for the sum of £30.00 (members) or £100.00 (non-members).

5. Business Rates

Members will know that this Chamber has campaigned long and hard all this year for the reform of the Rating (Empty Properties) Act 2007 which is only now beginning to bite. We have received strong support from our local and regional press. At last, the national media seems to have awoken to the serious effects this pernicious Act is having on our basic business infrastructure. Last weekend's Sunday Telegraph carried a report from Segro, the biggest industrial property company in Britain, which claims that it has now demolished 450,000 square feet of buildings, the equivalent of a large shopping centre. A rival property company, Brixton, is also contemplating demolishing 300,000 sq ft of untenanted buildings that would have previously been available to small and medium enterprises on short-term leases. The construction by the private sector of new shops, offices, factories and warehouses in Kent has understandably come to a virtual stop. We will be addressing this question with SEEDA tomorrow at their Kent offices in Chatham and will continue to campaign for change until we achieve a satisfactory outcome for Thanet & East Kent.

6. Attention Electricians, Plumbers, Builders, Solicitors

... and any other company that supplies services to landlords of residential properties. Thanet District Council (TDC) is hosting an event for landlords in Thanet to keep them informed of the latest regulations and the availability of local suppliers. TDC has offered Chamber members free stands at the exhibition which is expected to attract up to 100 landlords. If you can attend the Margate Media Centre on 11 September 2008 from 1630 hrs to 1930 hrs and would like take advantage of this offer, please contact Amanda Priestley, Housing and Property, Community Services Department, Thanet District Council, P.O. Box 9, Margate, Kent CT9 1XZ. Tel: 01843 577437. Fax: 01843 229394. Email: amanda.priestley@thanet.gov.uk . Stand space is limited and Amanda is operating on the basis of 'first come, first served'.

7. London Array

The Prime Minister's announcement last Thursday of plans for 4,000 onshore and 3,000 offshore turbines considerably strengthens the case for the London Array; currently the world's largest planned off-shore windfarm. The BBC gave the announcement considerable coverage with a web link to match, see http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/7474592.stm . We will keep readers of the Thanet & East Kent Insider updated on developments and how this might impact on Ramsgate, currently the favoured serviced port. Patriots will know that England did not qualify for the recent European Football Championships. Andy Murray may well fail against Rafael Nadal in tomorrow's men's semi-final at Wimbledon. However, what is not in dispute is that Britain is the windiest country in Europe. It seems only fair that we should make use of this natural resource. After all, it is British wind.

<<END>>

David Foley
Chief Executive, Thanet & East Kent Chamber Limited
Director, Channel Chamber of Commerce
Fellow, Royal Society of Arts, Manufactures & Commerce
Tel: +44 (0) 1843 609289
Fax: +44 (0) 1843 609291
Email: davidfoley@tekc.co.uk
Mobile: +44 (0) 7967 284850

Thanet & East Kent Chamber Limited
Thanet & East Kent Chamber Limited (TEKC) is a company registered in England and Wales with company number 4518138. Thanet & East Kent Chamber Limited, Kent Innovation Centre, Thanet Reach Business Park, Millennium Way, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2QQ. Tel: 01843 609289 Fax: 01843 609291 TEKC is not VAT Registered. Important: This e-mail may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient it may be unlawful for you to read, copy, distribute, disclose or otherwise use the information used in this e-mail. If you are not the intended recipient of this e-mail, please telephone, fax or e-mail us immediately. Errors and omissions may occur in the contents of this e-mail arising out of or in connection with data transmission, network malfunction or failure, machine or software error or malfunction, or operator error. TEKC accepts no responsibility for any such errors or omissions and you are advised to confirm the accuracy of the contents of this e-mail before relying on it for any purpose.