HOLT CHAMBER OF TRADE

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12th March 2013 in The Railway Tavern at 18.00 hrs

Ian Furniss	The Tannery	07818405564
Martin Sanders (Treasurer)	Larking Gowan	712017
Charles Butler	Butler's Pantry	711867
Duncan Baker	Bakers and Larners of Holt	712244
Len Casey	Guided Media	768156
Joshua Dyball	Josh.biz	862610
Sandra Taylor-Meeds	Budgens	713734
Lynda Mossman (Membership Sec)	Past Caring	713771
David Makinson	The Holt Bookshop	715858
Julie Nelson	Nelson's Eye Patch	711810
Chloe Nelson	Nelson's Eye Patch	711810

Present: Ian Furniss (Chair) Martin Sanders, Duncan Baker, Charles Butler, Alison Cook, Ian Cook, Nigel Emmett, Lindsay Furniss, Michael Hill, Chris Lambert, David Makinson, Chloe Nelson, Julie Nelson, Paul Read, Rodney Smith, Sandra Taylor Meeds, Simon Wade.

Apologies: Caroline Carter, Len Casey, Adrian Hill, Teresa Hill, Linda Morris, James Pallister, John Perry Warnes, Ashlea Smith.

- **2. Minutes of Last Meeting:** The minutes of the meeting of 6th February 2013 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.
- 3. **Treasurer's Report:** The current balance was reported as £5642.91. The current budget would role forward. It was agreed that the Treasurer would in future produce full accounts every three months. Outstanding subscriptions were discussed, it was suggested that these could in future be paid by standing order, possibly with a small discount. The treasurer will look into this and produce a proposal for the next meeting.
- **4. Membership Report:** The membership secretary Lynda Mossman had resigned. It was agreed that until a replacement was found everyone should encourage all businesses to join.
- 5. **Thaxter's Supermarket:** The Chair produced the document he and the action committee had put together giving reasons for objection to the food store at Thaxter's site. He thanked the action committee especially Michael Hill for all their work. The plans were due to come before the planning committee on 21st March. Although many members expressed a wish to be present at the planning committee meeting, it was during working hours and traders were unable to leave their businesses for an undetermined time to attend. Anyone wishing to attend would need to be there by 9.15 am. Those against the plan would have four slots of three minutes to speak and those for would have an equal amount of time. The Town Council would also have three minutes to give their views. It was suggested that all results should be considered and if the plans were agreed the Chamber ought to think about the Section 106 agreement. It would be the Town Centre that would be affected the most and therefore the Chamber should be able to express their views on how any monies could be spent. Items put forward for consideration were
- CCTV in the Town Centre there had been several incidents regarding young adults 'running wild' in and around the alleyways.
- Something to help promote the Town centre the cash to employ an agency to work with the Traders to encourage those using any edge of Town facilities to come into the main Town Centre.
- Additional storeys on existing car parks this had been suggested by the Chamber before and

Albert Street Car Park was mentioned as a Town Centre Car Park.

The secretary would ask for any additional suggestions by e mail and these would be collated for the Chair to recommend.

A short shoppers survey had been put together for the Chamber to distribute to local Traders to give a base for future work and if sufficient could be completed by Monday the results could be conveyed to the Chair to consider in his statement. At least 100 would be needed to give a full overview. Chloe Nelson would collate all answers so please all surveys to Nelsons Eye Patch as soon as possible after the weekend.

Geof Lyons (Planner NNDC) recommendation for the committee should be released within the next few days and once this and all other information was gathered the Chair would prepare his 3 minute speech against the plan.

- **6. Holt Christmas Lights 21**st **Nov 2012:** Esme Bagnell-Oakley and Joshua Dyball were both unable to attend, this matter would be raised on the next agenda.
- **7. Holt Town Council Report:** A request had been considered from the Holt Festival for the Town Council to support Road Closures on 21st July for a day of Street Theatre in the Town. The Chamber agreed it would support this closure the Festival brings people into the town and this generates income for the local businesses.
- **8.Potential Ideas for future Chamber Activity** The Chair had prepared a document giving ideas for future activity. He suggested members took time to read, digest and change or amend what he had written. Additional ideas included associate membership opening up the meetings to the public. Inviting other organisations and Chambers to attend our meetings. A possible link to Sheringham High School to promote work experience.

 All ideas for future activities to be brought to the next meeting.
- **9. Parking Sub Committee.** A sub committee of Duncan Baker, Ian Cook, Nigel Emmett, Michael Hill was agreed. They would arrange to meet and report back to the next meeting. Nigel Emmett had formulated a letter to go to householders to ask if they had spare parking spaces on their driveways workers could use during working hours.
- **10. Membership Data Base:** This item is currently on hold.
- **11. Chamber Constitution.** Secretary to e mail James Pallister to request copy of original document.
- **12. Holt Vision** The vision appears to be 'parked' at the moment. The minutes of the last meeting are on the Town Council Website.
- **13 Resignation of Lynda Mossman as Membership Secretary and her replacement.** Ian as Chair had written to Lynda to thank her for her role as membership secretary for the past five years. Currently all members should try and encourage other traders to join the Chamber.
- **14. Resignation of Caroline Carter from responsibility for planters.** Ian thanked Caroline for all she had done, which included arrangements for the planters for this year. Someone would be needed to take over this role
- **15. Any Other Business:** The Chamber was asked to consider its position regarding Gresham's pulling out of a planning application for a Supermarket on the site of the Old School House. At the original presentation to the Chamber when asked what they would do if the plans failed they advised they would continue with plans for larger commercial units with residential above. No mention was made of a car park. The Chamber hoped it would be

officially consulted on any future plans.

The comment was made that Byfords are advertising their accommodation as being with car parking available, there was some concern over which car parking they were recommending. Concern had been shown regarding cycling clubs that came into Holt on Sunday mornings for an organised refreshment stop but were showing little regard for peoples property by leaving many cycles against shop fronts, hedges and blocking pavements. The situation had been reported and traders were keeping watch on future events.

Members of the public had been complaining to traders about the aggressive nature of some of the big issue sellers. It was reported that the seller outside Spar was so 'in your face' that people were avoiding going near him.

Concern was shown that some businesses round he back of the Feathers were now closing on Mondays and at lunch times.

Next Meeting: 6pm on Wednesday 3rd April venue The Railway Tavern