

# HOLT AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Minutes of the AGM held at Byfords Wine Bar on 16 April 2008 at 1800 hrs.

Committee:	John Lintott (Chairman)	Hayes & Storr	712835
	Alan Godfrey (Treasurer)	Gresham's School	714503
	Chris Harrison	Bircham Gallery	713312
	Charles Butler	Butler's Pantry	711867
	Caroline Carter	The Holt Chronicle	712177
	Sandra Taylor-Meads	Bakers & Larners	713734
	Lynda Mossman	Past Caring	713771
	Heather Ward	Silk Connections	711444
	David Makinson	The Holt Bookshop	715858

**PRESENT:** John Lintott (Chairman), Alan Godfrey (Treasurer), Charles Butler, Caroline Carter, Harriet Clayton-Gray, Di Dann, Sephen Davies, Joshua Dyball, Lindsay Furniss, Mark Humberstone, Linda l'Anson, David Makinson, Linda Morris, Lynda Mossman, Paul Rogers, Sandra Taylor-Meads, Beverley Thirkle, Heather Ward.

Before the AGM Derek Purnell (Director – Norfolk Dance) gave an informative presentation including a fascinating career resumé and an outline of possible developments in the Holt Festival which is planned for summer 2009 – possibly August. He referred to possible funding sources and stressed that the emphasis should be on high quality and distinctive performances. Some discussion took place on ideal timings and locations and it was generally agreed that this would be best over a period of eight days at both the Auden Theatre and other locations in the town centre.

**APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Chris Harrison, Howard Heathfield, Carol Pennington, and Ashley Smith.

**MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM:** These were approved and accepted as a true record.

**MATTERS ARISING:** There were no matters arising.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** John Lintott outlined the year's activities including the eventful Thornage Road Car Park developments where the Chamber had actively represented the member's interests. He offered his thanks to all those who had supported the campaign to promote the Car Park. There was a general feeling that the NNDC gave little support to initiatives in Holt but felt that the area was prosperous and able to look after its own - ignoring the efforts of a large number of traders who work very hard for small margins of profit. This has also been amply demonstrated by the situation over the Church Street toilets where the Chamber has again fought to retain the site for community use. Until September last year there was no chairperson for the Christmas Lights Committee. However, Esme Bagnell-Oakley and her committee (who are willing to continue) with special mention of Sarah Tribe and Stephanie Pinnell managed to secure the event. The Switch On Evening was very successful once again though additional help is being actively sought for 2008. The Great Fire Commemoration will be one of this year's major events and thanks were given to the Town Council and, in particular, Di Dann for all their hard work. Members were encouraged to visit the Xmas Tree Festival this year as this is a delightful way to remind us of the various organisations in Holt. John expressed his thanks to Terry Hurlock for all his hard work in the past as treasurer, to Caroline Carter for all the work she does behind the scenes and to Alan Godfrey for

taking over the role of treasurer. The challenges for the coming year include the need to increase membership to enable the Chamber to achieve more on behalf of its members.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Seventy-four members have now paid (several in advance) giving a total income at 31 January 2008 of £3638.87. Expenditure totals £2666.25 which includes a donation to the Christmas Lights, secretarial expenses, maintaining the flower tubs and renewal of the Lottery Licence. This gives a surplus for the year of £972.62 and a closing balance of £2861.17.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE:** There have been no resignations from committee members and no additional members have expressed a wish to join. John Lintott agreed to continue as Chairman – proposed by Alan Godfrey and seconded by Linda Morris. John Lintott proposed that Lynda Mossman should continue as Membership Secretary and this was seconded by Caroline Carter. Finally Alan Godfrey agreed to continue as Treasurer – proposed by Mark Humberstone and seconded by Lynda Mossman.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** Linda Morris raised the question of CCTV which had previously been discussed at a meeting she was unable to attend. Linda cited several incidents when premises had been damaged or broken into and the possibility was discussed of inviting Steve Blatch and Mr Greg Knowles (PCSO) to an open meeting in July to see what options might be open to Holt for funding of CCTV as a preventative measure, and to allow members to express their views. John agreed to contact Steve Blatch and Linda will contact Greg Knowles.

**CAR PARKING PERMITS AT GRESHAMS:** Alan estimated that there would be between 30-40 permits in the near future.

**CHURCH STREET TOILETS:** The Town Council will be undertaking a feasibility study into community use for the toilet site and all members are encouraged to respond. Any initiative would need to be self-funding.

**GREAT FIRE COMMEMORATION:** Members were encouraged to dress up for this occasion.

**PLANTERS:** Caroline pointed out that unfortunately our application for a grant towards the cost of maintaining the planters had not been successful.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:** The next committee meeting would take place on Wednesday, 7 May 2008 at Byfords (Cellar) at 1800 hrs.

