

Meeting of the Holt Chamber of Trade Held on Wednesday 1st April 2015 at 5.35pm at Adrian Hill Fine Art Gallery

Ian Furniss (Chair)	The Tannery	07818405564
Martin Sanders (Treasurer)	Larkin Gowen	712017
Charles Butler	Butler's Pantry	
Duncan Baker	Baker and Larners	712244
Len Casey	Guided Media	768156
Sandra Taylor-Meeds	Budgens	713734
David Makinson	Holt Bookshop	715858

Present: Ian Furniss (Chair) Martin Sanders, John Allison, Duncan Baker, Charles Butler, Len Casey, Allison Cook, Ian Cook, Amanda Heading, Michael Hill, Teresa Hill, Linda Mossman, Paul Reed, James Stronach

Apologies: Nigel Emmet, Lindsay Furnis, Adrian Hill, David Mackinson, Ray Moore, Linda Morris, Ashlea Smith, Rodney Smith, Sandra Taylor Meeds.

2. Approval of the minutes. The closure date for nominations for the Town Council was corrected to 9th April. With this amendment it was agreed by the meeting that the minutes of the meeting of 1st April 2015 were a correct record.

3. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda.

4. Marketing. Royal Norfolk Show 1st/2nd July. The stand position at the RNS had been confirmed, immediately outside the main show ring. There will be 4 entry tickets, car park passes and passes for setting up/ standing down issued to every exhibitor. Once the finances had been sorted out there would be some refunds due. Ian would deal with this. There would be 20 exhibitors in the marquee and the stands would be slightly larger this year. The Barn and Folly Tea Rooms would be sharing the refreshment area. The Chamber, Town Council, Holt History Society, and Holt Festival would share a stand.

Uniquely magazine will be running an article on the Traders of Holt. It would be product based. The cost is £100.00 per business and there would be 18 advertisers. Colin and Len would deal with the editorial. Everything needed to be completed by the end of May.

Jamie (Byfords) who was dealing with the owl logo was currently very busy and it was uncertain when he would find time to deal with this. MH offered to see if he could find someone who could design the logo.

5. Car Parking: John Allison explained he had attended a meeting regarding the Gresham's Church Street car park. There will be three spaces lost at one end of Church Street and one gained at the other a net loss of two spaces. It will be a pay and display car park with 56 spaces. The planning application has not yet been submitted.

The section 106 money for the Cley Road site has suffered a delay and there had been a

change with the ownership of the site partnership. This is ongoing.

Thornage Road, there was to be an asset meeting with NNDC after the election. Following many letters from Holt traders Steve Blatch NNDC Corporate Director had been in touch and had offered to come and speak to a COT meeting regarding car parking in Holt. It was agreed the Chair would invite him to the June meeting. It was suggested people should think of questions and submit them to the secretary so the Chair/Committee could put together a structured approach for the meeting.

Aldi car park - the store is awaiting the appropriate licences, the contract had been awarded and they could be ready by early 2016.

Comments were made regarding the current untidy appearance of the supermarket site. As one of the first things seen on entering Holt it did not give a good impression. It also appeared unsafe. Town Councillors present were asked to report this back to the next Town Council meeting and ask the them to contact the developers.

6. Christmas Lights: As one of the main sponsors, Duncan Baker gave an update. The date of the switch on was confirmed as 25th November. The committee is still looking for leadership.

7. Treasurers Report: Martin distributed a list of members who had not yet paid and those present agreed to visit the slow payers and give them a gentle reminder.

8. Holt Town Council Report: The Town Council has become involved with the Town planters and is trying to get them looking as good as they did several years ago. They are employing Chris Wright who was project manager of the 'Roots and Shoots' project at Holt Hall, who has checked all the pots and recommended actions and changes. The Chamber were asked to match fund this project with a donation of £1000.00. The members present agreed. The colour scheme for this was basic red interspersed with white and blue. It was suggested businesses could sponsor pots, this suggestion would be carried forward for next year. This year was just to get the basic project up and running. It was requested the project covers the whole town, not just the Town Centre. There will be 10 hanging baskets available at a cost please send requests for these or for details of the proposed plan to Duncan Baker. Following on from this it was mentioned that some buildings in the Town were in need of sprucing up, a fresh coat of paint would make a lot of difference. It was asked if the Town Council could promote this. Michael Hill remembered a similar scheme many years ago called 'The Brighter Holt Scheme', which was done in conjunction with Dulux. Ian Furniss suggested he would pass this on to the Holt History Society.

The Town Council are still looking for a building on which to mount the web cam if anyone is able to help with this please contact the Town Clerk.

Holt honours were awarded at the Town Meeting on 30th March these went to Dick Copas, Holt Community Hub, Simon Gresham and Fiona Joliffe.

10. Businesses Opening and Closing: Several new businesses would be opening in the Town:- Applecatchers; Emmas; Just Add Grapes; B J Seafoods; T Caddy; Nells; Beading Fantastic. The Chair commented it was good to see empty buildings being taken.

11 AOB: Ian Cook had attended a meeting regarding the Holt Trail and signage. He had produced a rough trail route. Costings for the plaques would be about £8,200 for 20 in stainless steel. These could be funded by a Big Society Grant. It was also suggested that all entrances to the town, either from car parks or pedestrian should have sign boards promoting the town. It was hoped section 106 money from the supermarket could be used fund this initiative.

Adrian Hill was thanked for the use of his gallery and the meeting closed at 07.30

Next Meeting Wednesday 6th May at 5.35pm at Adrian Hill Fine Art Galley, Lees Yard, Holt.