

H O L T C H A M B E R O F T R A D E

(www.holtchamber.org)

Minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2011 in Byfords Wine Bar at 1800 hrs.

Committee:	John Lintott (Chairman)	Hayes & Storr	712835
	Martin Sanders (Treasurer)	Larking-Gowen	712017
	Charles Butler	Butler's Pantry	711867
	Duncan Baker	Bakers & Larners of Holt	712244
	Caroline Carter	The Holt Chronicle	712177
	Joshua Dyball	Josh.biz	862610
	Sandra Taylor-Meeds	Budgens	713734
	Lynda Mossman (Membership Sec)	Past Caring	713771
	David Makinson	The Holt Bookshop	715858

PRESENT: John Lintott (Chairman), Lynda Mossman (Membership Secretary), Martin Sanders (Treasurer), Esme Bagnall-Oakley, Duncan Baker, Charles Butler, Caroline Carter, Len Casey, Di Dann, Joshua Dyball, Nigel Emmett, Kate Langley, David Makinson, Rodney Smith, Sarah Tribe.

APOLOGIES: Sophie Jewry, Chris Lambert, Mary Pembleton.

Kate Langley, Marketing Manager at Gresham's School was welcomed to the meeting. The importance of maintaining a strong link with Gresham's School was stressed.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: These were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING: Roots and Shoots (Holt Hall) have agreed to take over planting out the town centre planters. The Snowdrop Walk at Brinton Hall was excellent. Royal Wedding - most traders seem to be staying open for normal hours on the Bank Holiday.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Martin Sanders was officially appointed as treasurer (proposed by John Lintott and seconded by Caroline Carter) and he then presented his monthly report. Income for the period up to 28.2.11 stands at £1,184.09 with expenses of £85 giving a current year surplus of £1,099.09 and a closing balance of £3,860.15. Payment was still awaited on 32 of the invoices sent out in February but no-one had indicated that they did not wish to continue their membership. It was proposed that the Chamber should become a 'friend' of the Holt Festival at a cost of £100 and that any free tickets could be raffled to provide additional income. The possibility of encouraging traders to pay by standing order was discussed and Martin will look into the ramifications of this.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Two new members had joined (Flaiver and Lloyd Durham). Unfortunately quite a few shops are now empty in the town and as new traders move in Lynda will contact them. Len Casey from Guided Media had five new potential members who had been encouraged to join as they wish to place advertising in the Town Guide.

TOWN COUNCIL REPORT: No up-date was available regarding progress with the proposed car park. Efforts are being made to have high-speed broadband installed in Holt. This has been made available to the local primary school.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS: After an initial decision to cut down activities for the Christmas Lights to a procession, two new members on the Lights Committee mean that it may be possible to return to the original format. Stalls, however, will be closely monitored and restricted to local traders, and charity stalls. Tom Dick is now in charge of letting sites for the stalls. More emphasis will be put on entertainers with a 'Christmas connection' and the stage area may in future be much smaller. Fortunately some surplus funding is available from last year and Sue Landers and Alexi King will be running a raffle to provide extra funding. Any raffle prizes would be welcome please - up to a maximum value of £30. Sophie Jewry has offered to help with artwork but someone is still needed to co-ordinate the 'lights' and another volunteer to organise the trees. Ideally someone is still needed from Byfords. Len Casey is making some progress in finding volunteers from the Territorial Army and Air Cadets to man the barriers for the road closures. Alan's role as Gresham's representative had been taken over by Kate Langley and discussion took place on the possibility of extending the number of musicians from Gresham's School who could be involved on the night. It was agreed that earnest fund-raising would start at the end of August and would, once again, be shared out between committee members.

TOWN GUIDE: This is progressing well and a proof has been sent to John Lintott and Di Dann. The aim is to distribute The Guide from the end of March to catch the beginning of the main tourist season. Joshua Dyball will also put some of the material relating to the town on the website. Quality photographs of the town, and in particular of events taking place in the town, would be very useful to make the website more colourful. Please contact Joshua with any contributions and do not forget to keep those logos coming please!

FIRST IMPRESSIONS LAUNCH – 8 April: The Holt Society is holding a celebration evening to launch its new publication 'First Impressions'. Complimentary copies will be available on the night. The aim is that everyone will start 'looking' and 'seeing' the details, materials and colours in Holt which create a sense of place. A copy of the new publication on the Holt Great Fire will also be on view.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Holt Library are promoting "Books for busy people" in March as part of their Great Big Read Campaign and would be pleased to help any Chamber members to find 'the right book'. Holt Area Partnership is moving into the library.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Wednesday 6 April 2011: All members are invited to join us for the above meeting at 1800 hrs in Byfords Wine Bar Cellar. Light refreshments will be provided. The committee members have expressed their wish to continue in their roles and two members have expressed an interest in joining the committee. If any other member wishes to make a nomination for a new committee member could you please contact John Lintott – preferably before the AGM. Do come along on the 6th and get involved!