

HOLT AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Minutes of the AGM held on 22nd April 2009 at Byfords Wine Bar at 1800hrs.

Committee:	John Lintott (Chairman)	Hayes & Storr	712835
	Alan Godfrey (Treasurer)	Gresham's School	714503
	Charles Butler	Butler's Pantry	711867
	Duncan Baker	Barkers & Larners of Holt	712244
	Caroline Carter	The Holt Chronicle	712177
	Sandra Taylor-Meeds	Bakers & Larners	713734
	Lynda Mossman (Membership Sec)	Past Caring	713771
	David Makinson	The Holt Bookshop	715858

Before the Annual General Meeting we received a very helpful and informative presentation from Graham Chapman regarding the latest developments on the proposed Thornage Road car park. He pointed out the numerous hurdles that he had overcome to date and those remaining before work could start on construction of the car park.

PRESENT: John Lintott (Chairman), Alan Godfrey (Treasurer), Lynda Mossman (Membership Secretary), Linda l'Anson, Esme Bagnall-Oakley, Rhu Bruce-Lockhart, Charles Butler, Di Dann, Stephen Davies, Joshua Dyball, John Fisher, Lindsay Furniss, Joe Henry, Mark Humberstone, Mr and Mrs R. Hyslop, Chris Lambert, David Makinson, Carol Pennington, Rodney Smith, Sandra Taylor-Meeds and Clare Wheeler.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Duncan Baker, Harriet Clayton-Gray, Alan Cook, Linda Morris, Brian Sullivan and Caroline Carter.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: John Lintott outlined the year's activities including the excellent **Great Fire Commemoration** which had been very well supported and blessed by good weather. Thanks were expressed to Di Dann and her team for their hard work. Again the **Christmas Lights Evening** was very successful though the fundraising was, as always, problematic and as no-one had volunteered to take on this role for the committee, it had been necessary to employ a professional fundraiser. Thanks were given to Esme Bagnall-Oakley and her supporting committee for the immense amount of work they put in to organise this event. We now have a new town guide produced by Sophie Jewry. The guide has been very successful and will hopefully be reprinted annually. A new initiative this year will be the **Holt Festival**. The final programme should be in place for May and the Festival will take place in the first week in August offering a wide range of events. Thanks were expressed to Rhu Bruce-Lockhart and Tony Brittain. The new **Holt Planning Group** have been looked at forward planning for the town and will be consulting local stakeholders to assess what should be done to make positive changes without the need for major funding. They have been supported in this task by professional advice from Urban Practitioners. The Town Council have been able to reach agreement with the North Norfolk District Council regarding the future of the **Church Street Toilet Site**. The toilets will be restored for the summer season and further developments are under discussion supported by a very impressive business plan produced by Di Dann. Unfortunately it has been a struggle once again this year to maintain, or indeed,

increase **membership** numbers. It is very important that as many traders as possible become involved in the future of the town.

TREASURER'S REPORT: It has been decided to keep annual subscriptions at £40, but it is necessary to encourage more traders to become members if the Chamber is to continue to support the Christmas Lights etc at the present levels. The year 2008-2009 showed a deficit of £1,153.63 and the closing balance at 22 April 2009 of £3,360 is only possible due to the balances previously held in current and deposit accounts. Last year was particularly expensive as several planters needed to be replaced due to vandalism so an increase in membership is essential if the Chamber is to stay financially viable next year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE: John Lintott agreed to continue as Chairman – proposed by Charles Butler and seconded by David Makinson. Alan Godfrey agreed to continue as Treasurer – proposed by Carol Pennington and seconded by Lynda Mossman and the committee were re-elected en bloc – proposed by John Lintott and seconded by Joshua Dyball.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Estate Agents. Although there are eleven estate agents in Holt, only two are members of the Chamber and active encouragement will take place to encourage the others to join. **Website** – Joshua Dyball will contact Howard Heathfield to look into the possibility of developing the structure of the Chamber's website. It is proposed that potential members will be able to download a membership form from the website and also that a link will be made to the Holt Festival website.

A vote of thanks was given to John Lintott for his work as Chairman over the past year.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING: The next committee meeting would take place on Wednesday, 6 May 2009 at Byfords Wine Bar at 1800 hrs.

