

HOLT CHAMBER OF TRADE

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 26th August 2015
at The Barn, Appleyard, Holt at 5.35pm

Ian Furniss	The Tannery	07818405564
Martin Sanders	Larkin Gowen	712017
Charles Butler	Butler's Pantry	711867
Duncan Baker	Bakers and Larners of Holt	712244
Len Casey	Community Media	768156
Sandra Taylor Meeds	Budgens	713734
David Makinson	The Holt Bookshop	715858

Present: Ian Furniss, Duncan Baker, Charles Butler, Joe Buxton, Len Casey, Lindsay Furniss, Amanda Heading, Leila Kadhour, Michael Hill, Teresa Hill, Martin Sanders, Brenda Smith, Rodney Smith, Helen Stoker, Patsy Withers, Helen Wright

Apologies: Alison Cook, Ian Cook, Adrian Hill, Ruth Johnson, Linda Morris, Colin Rawlins.

2. Approval of the Minutes of 8th July: The minutes were approved by all present.

Matters Arising: DB advised that Gresham's school ran first aid courses and were prepared to look at putting on courses for the school in conjunction with the Town Council and the Chamber of Trade. DB and LK will look into this.

Patsy Withers advised My child also run courses.

Holt bowls club are fundraising for a new defibrillator this will be fixed to the new extension of Holt Playing Field on Kelling Road.

3. Advertising: LC reported regarding the product based advert in Uniquely many businesses would prefer the advertising to be name led. £120.00 will be for ¼ page with art work free. If anyone is interested please speak with Len Casey asap.

Royal Norfolk Show: 29/30th June 2016 : 90% of the stand for 2016 was already booked and confirmation of attendance was needed by end of October. The pitch would be on the corner outside the main show ring. As compensation for last year's encroachment by the next pitch there will be a reduction on the cost of the stand. Funding from the Big Society was being looked at. Ticket prices would remain the same in 2016 with stand prices increasing by 5%. Daisy's flower shop had offered to provide flowers for the stand in exchange for a place. **There would be a meeting on 24th September at around 5.30 for those wishing to take part next year.**

Holt Guide: The new guide was now being planned there were two types that had been used over the past years, opinion was asked over which the Chamber felt was the better option. Although the larger version was nicer to look at it was not as user friendly, the smaller version was easier to pick up and put in a bag or pocket. Based on style and cost the members felt the smaller style more appropriate.

This is Holt website had three new members and all had joined the Chamber.

4.1940's weekend 19/20th September A full report of activities has already been issued to members these include details of decorating window, posters, flags in the tree holders, ration books. The weekend is to be linked to fundraising for walking with the wounded. The Chamber had donated £400.00 for advertising boards on the way into Holt and The Town Council £350, 00 for events

including Saturday's activities on Peacock Lane Playing Field for the Children. The Holt Chronicle would produce a celebration issue. There would be a website www.forcesweekend.com . Next year dates were given as 18/19th September, to be confirmed

5. Holt Christmas Lights: 25th November, A written report had been submitted. This year there would be no fundraising which meant there would be no communal lights i.e. the churches. Instead the businesses would be encouraged to decorate and light their own shops in their own style, Warm white lights would be preferred. The lights on the night would be very much a community affair with no external traders. There would be a 'parade of light' involving schools and clubs in the town. Adults will be encourage to dress as Dames. There will be fireworks and the cost will be met by money collected in the donation buckets. There would be a window trail on the 12 days of Christmas theme which will run throughout December. A meeting between organisers, Chamber and Town Council was to be arranged. The Chamber wished to make sure the churches were supported so they could continue to take part, and would like to see the Large Christmas Trees continue. The Town Council usually gave a donation toward the trees. The Chamber may wish to continue giving a donation toward lighting the communal area and if people wished to continue donating this should be for a specific purpose. Chair to ask Ian Wilson for details of previous costings.

6. Car Parking: Gresham's planning application should be submitted in September. This may mean a loss of free spaces on Church Street but any spaces lost on the street would be free on the car park. Thornage Road car park was expected to come before the full committee in October. The Town Council was arranging a joint committee which would include Duncan Baker, Michael Hill, the Town Clerk and in future NNDC and NCC.

7. Town Council Report: There was concern with the number of houses being built in the town and where the people would work. Correspondence was ongoing regarding compulsory purchase of land on Hempstead Road for employment sites.

On the next Town Council agenda would be 20mph speed limit throughout the town. Norwich was expected to be all 20mph by 30 March 2016.

Barclays Bank was to close on Tuesdays businesses were encouraged to write to them showing their disappointment.

There had been a letter sent to the Town Council (copied to Chamber) from visitors who were unhappy at seeing a local businessman smoking in the street and discarding the cigarette butts in the gutter. The Chamber did not wish to make an issue of this but felt the person concerned should be made aware of the complaints so he could respond if he wished. Chair to deal. There were two issues smoking in the street and bins for discarded cigarettes. It was proposed that the town should have a general policy to recommend that traders encouraged their staff not to smoke outside premises, there was, however some concern about where the smokers would go and how this could be enforced. The Chair to set out a policy. The second matter, the bins, would be on the next Town Council agenda.

Thaxters site is now being demolished.

Four Town Councillors sat in on the last Neighbourhood Plan meeting, Roger Percival has been elected to the steering committee. Michael Hill and Rodney Smith are putting together a brief questionnaire 'why do people come to Holt'

Wells Town Council were setting up a forum regarding issues in and around North Norfolk. Roger Percival will be the representative.

Local development Plan – the Town Council were amongst those offered the chance to be consulted, the Chamber was also a consultee and it was felt it was important to be a voice in future plans.

8. Treasurers Report: The treasurer produced copies of the accounts for the period ended 31st July 2015. The balance was now increasing and members were asked to consider how they wished this money to be spent in the future.

9. Businesses Opening and Closing: Holt shoes is to become an opticians. Artifax was to become a YMCA charity shop. There was concern over the opening of another Charity shop. The problems for new business include the fact that rates were as high as rents. The Voewood bookshop was to close. The application for a pizza place on Fish Hill had been passed. Spirit of the Andes had closed.

AOB Concerns were expressed about the number of rubbish bins in the town especially down some of the smaller back streets. It was suggested that some businesses could have shared collection bins.

Ian thanked Helen for the use of the Barn for the meeting.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 7th October 2016 at 5.35. venue to be confirmed.