

HOLT AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Minutes of the Meeting held at Byfords Wine Bar on 3 September 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), Esme Bagnall-Oakeley, Duncan Baker, Caroline Carter, Joshua Dyball, Lindsay Furniss, Mark Humberstone, David Makinson, Steve Mollison, Nick Searle, Rodney Smith, Sandra Taylor-Meads, Beverley Thirle, Heather Ward.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Di Dann, Stephen Davis, Lynda Mossman, Linda Morris, Carol Pennington, Brian Sullivan.

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

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The current year shows a deficit of £149.09 but this was due to the fact that 13 members have yet to pay their outstanding subscriptions for 2008. The closing balance as at 31 August 2008 stood at £3,010.26.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: The committee were pleased to welcome Rodney Smith and Duncan Baker to the meeting. Membership currently stood at approximately eighty members.

TOWN COUNCIL REPORT: A meeting regarding the Church Street toilets is due to take place on Monday, 8 September. Caroline referred to the lack of clarity in the questionnaire regarding the Church Street site that had been sent to local householders.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS – ALISON ROSE: Arrangements with Alison Rose have now been finalised and she is working on our behalf to raise funds. Joshua has also set up a website giving information about the lights and every sponsor will also have their details included on it. This has acted as a positive incentive. Unfortunately no events organizer has been found which means considerable pressure is being put on the four committee members. Duncan, however, offered to give general assistance where he could. Discussion took place on the situation with reference to stalls/stallholders this year and it was agreed that generally there would not be any stalls due to the increasing encroachment of stalls needing noisy generators/amplifiers and having no empathy with the 'Georgian' nature of the town. However, it was agreed that provision would be made within the 'Yards' for genuine charity stalls. The committee would also look at the possibility of changing the position of the present traffic control measures for the

night which tended to work to the disadvantage of the Yards. Stalls selling refreshments would also be acceptable. The emphasis would be on street entertainers (non-amplified). It was hoped that pupils from Gresham's School would be taking part and Derek Purnell would be approached by David to see if the evening could be used to promote the Holt Festival. The fact that local traders did not know Alison had caused some minor problems and it was hoped that Caroline would be able to put a note in The Chronicle explaining her role – hopefully supported by a photograph.

THORNAGE ROAD CAR PARK: Progress is being delayed by three people determined to oppose the development. It will now be necessary to carry out a traffic assessment before any further progress can be made. There is also no further progress on the Gresham School Car Park at present.

CHURCH STREET TOILETS: This item has been covered earlier in the minutes.

HOLT FESTIVAL: At an exploratory meeting it was decided that a budget of £50,000-£100,000 would probably be required. Concrete budget proposals will be discussed on 11 September and David will report back to the committee on progress. The overall plan is still to aim for a short time scale but to provide at least one 'big name'. In addition to grant money, it would be essential that traders in the town were willing to provide sponsorship for the event.

HOLT TOWN GUIDE: Sophie Jewery has been making contact with local traders, several of whom have already taken advertising space.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: John is working with Rhu Bruce Lockhart on the Chamber's response to the proposed development sites.

NORTH NORFOLK BUSINESS FORUM EVENT: A presentation will be given on 16 September at 1830 hrs in the Community Centre in Holt looking at 'planning through the eyes of business' and members are encouraged to attend. Further details of this event will be sent to members with email addresses.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: John had received a telephone call from John Perry Warnes asking for a list of members so that requests could be made for donations to the forthcoming celebrations by the RAF Association. It was decided that the Data Protection Act prevented the committee from passing on members' details but members are encouraged to support this worthwhile cause and more details will be given in the next minutes.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 1 October 2008 at Byfords Wine Bar at 1800 hrs and (due to John's absence) will be chaired by Alan Godfrey.