

HOLT CHAMBER OF TRADE
 Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 5th November 2014
 17.35 hours at Byfords

Ian Furniss	The Tannery	07818405564
Martin Sanders (Treasurer)	Larking Gowan	712017
Charles Butler	Butler's Pantry	711867
Duncan Baker	Bakers and Larners of Holt	712244
Len Casey	Guided Media	768156
Sandra Taylor-Meeds	Budgens	713734
David Makinson	The Holt Bookshop	715858

1. Present: Ian Furniss (Chair), from 6.10pm Martin Sanders, John Allison, Charles Butler, Len Casey, Ian Cook, Duncan Baker, (chair until 6.10) Nigel Emmet, Lindsay Furniss, Amanda Heading, Lynda Mossiman, Heather McKray, Rodney Smith, Helen Stoker, Sandra Taylor-Meeds and Esme Bagnall-Oakeley.

Apologies: Mary Bopst, Alison Cook, Chris Lambert, David Makinson, Ray Moore, Linda Morris, Ruth Northway, James Pallister, Ashlea Smith.

2. Approval of the minutes. The minutes of the meeting of 1st October were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising: Sunday Parking in December. The matter had been referred back to NNDC but they were not prepared to change and the dates remain the weekend of 20/21 December.

4. Christmas Lights: At this point the Chair invited Esme to give an update on behalf of the Holt Lights Group. The latest figures show an income from donations of just over £14,000 against a target of £20,000. There was a misconception that the lights was only about the switch on night but in fact the whole town benefited for the six weeks the lights were on. The main stage entertainment on the night will include NN Radio (not live), Cromer Pier show, Mark James with the choir, Fakenham Band and a dance group. Other entertainment would include 2 steam organs, glitter bells, Ebenezer Scrooge, The Elves a stilt walker and reindeer on Fish Hill. Road Closures were all in place. The Rugby Club were once again rattling buckets and would share the contents. There was a window trail involving the Primary School who had designed 'postcards'. A best window competition and a best lights competition. There would be more lights and better lights this year.

Duncan Baker praised the work of the lights committee and on behalf of the Chamber recognised the incredible job of Esme and the team who had gained his and the Chambers debt of gratitude. He hoped the Chamber and the Lights Committee could work more closely in the future. A list of the businesses who had yet to donate was read out and members offered to visit each business.

NB. This list has been circulated to those who volunteered. Any cheques or cash collected should be handed to reception at Byfords or payments could be made by Bacs.

4a Royal Norfolk Show: Len Casey advised he had had a meeting with the organisers and they had offered a tent 24 x 18 with the extra 3 mtr free and free tickets for all who were in the tent. Two of last years members were doubtful but Gresham's would join this year. Because we were near the main ring we would not be allowed to have music. The Chamber was not subsidising the event this year so costs will be split between those attending and would be higher than last year.,

5. Joint Chamber Member Advertising: The EDP had been the favoured publication but Argent were not prepared to move on price although they had been offering discounts directly to local businesses.

The magazine 'Uniquely' wanted to do a feature on Holt and Len would work on this and get businesses to filter in behind.

6. Treasurers Report: Martin Sanders confirmed that funds were currently low but membership invoices would be going out in the new year. It was asked if we could produce some sort of glossy

flyer to encourage new membership.

7. Holt Town Council Report: Duncan reported the webcam was still ongoing, there were discussions about the best site for the camera.

The recently held budget meeting had increased the annual precept by 2%.

Grahams Chapman's car park was now slowly progressing.

CLlr Prior was happy with the shop front for Starlings and sent thanks to the Chamber for their part in the planning application.

On the 10th November parts of Cley Road would be closed for resurfacing.

A continental market would be held on Church Street on Dec 21st Churchgoers would be able to use the entrance via Gresham's.

Aldi supermarket had issued a leaflet to all addresses in Holt showing the change in orientation of the building. The plans had been called in to the planning committee and it was expected this would be heard in November or December. The request for a new retail impact statement had been turned down,

8. The Neighbourhood Plan. Duncan explained there had been a one day open meeting to explain about the Neighbourhood Plan. It is a plan to help devolve some power in planning matters from national and regional level down to Holt Town Council so all can help shape what will happen to the future of Holt. The plan will be part of the Local Development Framework and will be legally binding. Developers will need to take the Neighbourhood Plan into account when considering development within Holt. The Holt Vision is still in place and will run alongside this plan. There is a survey available from the Town Clerk which needs to be completed by 14th November. The Town Council are putting a lot of effort into this and it will, as part of the process, need to go to a referendum and receive at least a 51% yes vote.

9. Businesses Opening and Closing. Uniquely Eclectic has now closed.

10. AOB: Parking was still a huge problem and some members were concerned that once the new car parks were operating the free parking in the town would be decreased by the addition of double yellow lines. The members who were there did not want this to happen, these spaces were very useful for locals who needed stop and buy just one or two items. The matter of the joint meeting between the Chamber, Town Council NNDC/NCC had not happened and Duncan was asked to take this back to the Town Council, and to request this meeting again. This was not a meeting to talk just about the car parks but the whole range of parking matters including street parking.

Duncan displayed a poster he had devised for the Sunday Trading in December all sizes and laminated. He will provide them for anyone who needs one to display in their premises. The sign opposite Kerridge way advertising open on Sundays will be displayed from 12th November and Bakers and Larners will be advertising on NN Radio and in Norfolk Magazine.

Thursford Coaches are being encouraged to visit Holt.

Lindsay Furniss had been asked to pass on details of possible dates for a meeting with The History Society, NNDC Philip High, and others re signage in the Town. Dates suggested were 20/11: 8/12: or 10/12 Ian Cook would see if he was available to represent the Chamber.

The Tourist Information Centre was now closed for winter, they have funding for another two years, but not to open on switch on night. Ian will follow this up to see if funds could be provided for this.

The meeting closed at 19.50

Next meeting: AGM Wed 3rd December the Community Centre 5.35
Speaker Mary Alexander from the History Society.

Due to low attendance in previous years there will be no meeting in January.