

HOLT CHAMBER OF TRADE
 Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 8th January 2014
 in The Greshams Suite, The Feathers Hotel. 18.00 hrs

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

Present: Ian Furniss (Chair) John Allison, Duncan Baker, Len Casey, Allison Cook, Ian Cook, Ray Moore, James Stronach and Tom Appleton (Guest).

Apologies: Joshua Dyball, Lindsay Furniss, Adrian Hill, Michael Hill, Teresa Hill, Kate Langley, Linda Morris, Lynda Mossman, Gail Pegg, Sandra Taylor Meeds,

2. Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 4th December 2013 were accepted as a true record.

3. The Holt Choir: Ian introduced Tom Appleton, a teacher from Gresham's and a musical director, who has been involved successfully in this type of project before.

He explained there was an initiative to bring music into the workplace and this had been made possible by encouraging companies to form choirs along the lines of the Gareth Malone Programme. He was hoping to bring the working people of Holt together with any/all organisations who wished to join in a joint venture culminating in a performance of the Choir between 8am and 9am on Saturday 22nd March. This could come together at anyone of three places, at Gresham's, somewhere prominent such as the War Memorial or as a flash mob (an unannounced, rehearsed but unexpected performance) perhaps at Budgens. Although the idea of a flash mob was liked, getting together in an organised area such as the war memorial was preferred because this could then be advertised and attract publicity. The idea was that this would be a community project to bring everyone closer together and to bring a little fun to the group. Tom would through the secretary advertise workshops for people to attend as a first step, probably around ½ an hour either before or after work and at various locations, the only criteria is that you must be available for the performance on 22nd March. The songs would probably be popular Beatles songs, it is 50 years since they were at their height. Closure of the road would be taken back to the town council by our representative, this would probably need to be about an hour to allow for setting up and possibly three songs.

Watch this space for details of rehearsals.

4. The Website: Len had done a lot of work on this project and presented the results so far. This can be seen on an initial mock up of how the site will look on www.thisisholt.co.uk and everyone is encouraged to look at this site and make any comments, share ideas. The Chamber hopes to purchase the skeleton for £2,200 and businesses will buy onto the site. Len Casey would administer this and make a charge of £60-£80 per page.

The Chamber needs to be clear about what they want for the template and this could perhaps be dealt with by a small committee.

Certain suggestions were made regarding the running of the site these include:-

The site would be for members only.

The fee is to be finalised but current indications £60 - 80 plus annual site/administration fee.

The maintenance cost per annum would include updates, these would be e mailed to Len to update.

One update or weekly updates would be the same fee to encourage contributors to keep the site fresh and current.

There would be twitter and facebook accounts

This will be a large spend for the Chamber and they want to ensure members are happy with this, so

please look at the site and return your comments/ideas and questions via sec.cotholt@yahoo.co.uk. Anyone who has already shown an interest Len hopes to visit with details and if you wish to talk to him direct I am sure he will be happy. However the Chamber will be the only sponsor so members must be happy with the project before we go ahead.

5. The Royal Norfolk Show. The Chamber have been offered an 18m x 18m pitch at the price of an 18 x 12 m pitch £1910 plus vat.

The option is then for a 18 x 9 marquee £650 Approx £110 each

Or 18 x 15 marquee £1100. Approx £130 each Both plus vat.

Those present agreed the larger marquee would be better it would give either more pitches inside or more room for those who attend.

There would be an additional cost for tables and chairs of £5 per table and £3.00 per chair.

3m x 3m gazebos are available for outside areas at £110.00.

The site is in the middle of the retail area.

Len has obtained some free car parking tickets for those attending.

Water and electricity are an extra charge although the tent is bright enough without lights. If you feel you need either please let secretary or Len know as soon as possible so Len can get a good price.

A £50 deposit will soon need to be paid, details will follow.

Appreciation was shown by the members present for the amount of work Len Casey had put into both items 4 and 5

6. Treasurers Report: The Treasurer was unable to attend and had advised there was no report.

7. Report from Town Council. Duncan reported that there was to be major roadworks in the centre of Town to inspect/repair a gas main. It was expected this work would start on 10th February and continue for 3 - 4 weeks minimum. The work would close the road from outside Bakers and Larners entrance down to TSB/Abbots. Traffic would be able to turn past Abbots but then not turn right into Shire Hall Plain. This would mean they would be able to get into Albert Street car park. Traffic would be able to run along Past Crowes into Bull Street. Additional routes would be down Cley Road, Cross Street, Albert Street into Bull Street. It was suggested part of this should be one way, Duncan will take this back. The access road down to the Feathers car park and the Aga Shop would also be closed to cars. All pedestrian routes should not be affected. Until the camera is inserted into the system on 10th February the amount of work is not known. It is also not expected that the whole area will be closed for the whole time but may be closed in sections. Businesses affected have been notified and may need to adjust their deliveries during this time. There may be a temporary loss of some parking places and Highways are trying to find the best solution to keep the traffic flowing. The situation will be monitored when it happens. There may also be disruption to the gas supply. Any suggestions/questions to be directed back through Duncan Baker.

8. Membership and Committee. The Chair explained that over the last year the Committee has decreased and new volunteers for this post had not been found. This was now the time to invite members to take on the role of committee members. This post did not involve a lot of work and if more people came forward to help with matters then the work could be spread rather than a few taking on a lot of tasks. The next meeting would look at recruiting new committee members. If anyone knows of businesses that wish to join the Chamber the membership form will be on the website.

9. Businesses Opening and Closing. None notified.

10 AOB: Ian Cook commented that there had been a lot of confusion over the free parking on Saturday afternoons at Christmas. Visitors to the Town were getting parking tickets because of this. It was understood Mr Michael Baker had written to NNDC regarding this and Ian Furniss would check to see if a response had been received.

Duncan had written to Thursford regarding coaches calling into the Town either before or after visiting the shows. Although they do not get involved with the itinerary of the travel companies Geraldine Rye, the General Manager offered some advice re attracting coach parties to the Town. The first points she made were parking and the availability of toilets. Duncan offered to follow this up.

Next Meeting;

**Wed 5th February venue
The Community Centre 6pm**

**Presentations: tbc
The Local Police - concerns/improvements
regarding Anti Social behaviour in the Town
Chrissie Raymond NNR: how the town and
Railway can work together on Railway open days.**