

**The Minutes of the Meeting of North Walsham Chamber of Trade held on**  
**9<sup>th</sup> January 2008**

Present: Colin Page, Robert Dunham, Sam Reynolds, Brian Eastell, Nicholas Lee, Chris Hargest, Mike Foster, Chris Tims, Julie Cameron, Jenny Harmer, Granville Yaxley, Karen Langford.

Colin welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**1. Apologies**

Dave Audley - Three Cottages, Daniel Doyle – Computer Assist

**2. Minutes from previous meeting**

These were signed as correct.

**3. Treasurers Report**

A copy was handed out and they were signed as correct, proposed by Chris Hargest and seconded by Granville Yaxley.

**4. Directory of Members**

The directory was passed around and people checked and if necessary corrected their details.

**5. ECN Offer**

Everybody got a copy of the ECN offer and the cost of £40 may be able to be lowered to £35 but they cannot guarantee this but Aylsham have had theirs reduced. They will do one feature on North Walsham and if it works will continue as a regular item. Maybe a chance of North Walsham doing different promotions at different times of the year the community pages will be available if no one else wants them. An article for this would be every three months.

Chris Hargest was elected as a Publicity Officer his job will be to sort out adverts and link everything together including making all members aware.

**Pedestrianisation**

We are still waiting for consultation on ways to make North Walsham more pedestrian friendly. It has been decided we will hand over the petition when they visit the shops. We have over 2000 signatures.

**Town Management Report**

The proposal is to employ a Town Manger and start a committee made up of traders and others.

Now that there is a Chamber of Trade as well as the Griffon Area Partnership is there a need another committee. It is felt that if everyone worked together better things will be achieved.

The response by the Chamber to the idea was it is worth trying if they had to contribute £50 but the Chamber want the facts from Thursday's meeting as to what they envisage to start it and evidence of how it's going to work.

A small group will attend the Open meeting on Thursday to represent the Chamber of trade.

**8. Ideas for Enhancing North Walsham**

- a) There are a lot of empty shops and trying to get a good mixture of business in town.
- b) There has been a visual audit of the town and a list has been drawn up of the problems the town has.
- c) There are pigeon faeces everywhere

These were just a few things it was then decided that everyone should go away and think about the ideas and then write a short report for a meeting to discuss them

**9. Any Other Business**

Chris said as he is now the publicity officer he would like headed paper which is now available upon request. He is then going to get in touch with all members and also contact non members and encourage them to join. Chris also said we need to make positive steps over the next year and get together a three year plan.

Robert asked how many people would be happy to place an advert. Nick and himself said they were.

Colin proposed that we have 4 meetings a year, 2 for the committee members and 2 for all members of the Chamber of Trade including one to be held in the summer with a BBQ.

Colin then summarised some mail shots he had received:

North Walsham Cocoon will contact businesses by phone and let them no of criminal activities in the areas.

The Chamber of Trade at this stage has declined to join North Norfolk Business Forum due to the cost.

Nick is happy to email traders with any information he receives that may interest them.

**10. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at the council offices.