

LOUGHBOROUGH CHAMBER OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
Minutes of Members Open Meeting Held On Monday 20 April 2009

Present

Paul Fileman	President
Karen Cunnington	
Maggie Robinson	
Jill Clarke	
Ray Jarram	
Alvin Bailiss	
Michael Smallman	
Roger Perrett	

In attendance

Tom Horrocks	
Jonathan Hale	
Roz Bott	Secretary

1. Welcome

Paul Fileman welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Adrian McInnes
Brian McInnes
David Pagett-Wright
Jon Walker
Jon Harkness
David Taylor
Sharmen Rahman
Martin Shannon

3. Presentation by Jonathan Hale, Charnwood Borough Council

Jonathan talked about the various initiatives that were in progress and planned in the Borough. Presentation to be made available via the website.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

Approved

5. Matters Arising

Empty shop fronts – Paul had spoken to Jonathan Hale and been assured that Charnwood Borough Council (CBC) would help with the planning process.

The Princes Trust had been approached regarding suitable businesses. The Town Centre Partnership, Great Central Railway and Bell Foundry might also be able to

help. Next step to involve landlords of empty properties. **Action: Paul Fileman (Volunteers to help with this greatly appreciated)**

6. Updates

- Town Team – No report.
- Local Strategic Partnership – No report.
- Leicester Shire Business Council – See report (attached).
- Loughborough Town Centre Partnership – Loughborough in Bloom thought to be well received to date.
- Fair Trade – No report.
- CCTV – Crematorium was out to tender. Provision of CCTV going ahead at Robert Bakewell School. Deployable cameras had been suggested for trouble spots. Felt to be a good idea. To date there had been no convictions due to CCTV under reporting.
- Charnwood Community Safety Partnership – performance plans up-to-date. Local authority had been carrying out scrutiny of crime and disorder and violence against women and children. It was suggested that a presentation on environmental crime would be well received. **Action: Paul Fileman**
- East Midlands Airport Consultative Committee – The Skylink service for Nottingham, Derby and Leicester all reported fewer passengers/traffic. This was felt to be a reflection of the economic situation. Cargo traffic had increased.
- Chamber website –.Martin was too busy to help. Tim had been away but would be meeting Jill to discuss work on the website. If Tim were unable to carry out work on the website it would be necessary to consider funding options to pay for the work.
- Events Plan – No further progress.

7. Members News/Input

It was agreed that presentations at meetings were a good idea. Action: Paul Fileman to circulate the meeting schedule. Members to suggest speakers for vacant months.

8. Any other business

- LCTC membership – there were now approximately 60 members. The take up of business was 20% or less. Maggie and Ray had met in November to discuss ways to increase the membership and increase involvement. The notes to be circulated prior to the next meeting for discussion.
- Publicity – the Loughborough Echo would be publishing an article on business rates, including publicity on small business discounts. Roger agreed to be a contact for this.

- Suggested that a combined CBC/LATI/LCTC event be held early/mid September. It was suggested that it be combined with the cocktail evening but felt that it would be better to keep the events separate.
- Cocktail Evening – suggested venues – Quorn Country Hotel and Holywell Park.
- Tom Horrocks – Oz Media was considering joining the Chamber.

9. **Date of next meeting** – Monday 15th June 2009

The meeting closed at 7.50 pm