

# **LOUGHBOROUGH CHAMBER OF TRADE & COMMERCE**

**Minutes of Executive Committee meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2005**

## **In attendance**

|                    |                  |                            |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Adrian McInnes     | President        | William Davis Ltd          |
| Michael Smallman   | Senior VP        | Del Rosa Developments Ltd  |
| Alvin Bailiss      |                  | Zodiac Recruitment         |
| Paul Hull          |                  | PSH Telecom                |
| David Exley        |                  | Rushes Shopping Centre     |
| Phil Collin        | Acting secretary | Charnwood Funerals         |
| David Paget-Wright |                  | Moss Solicitors            |
| Stephen Foster     |                  | Rent-a-Wash                |
| Robert White       |                  | R & J Antiques             |
| Tony Simons        |                  | Market Traders Association |
| Ivor Lovesey       |                  | Market Traders Association |
| Stuart Simpson     |                  | Rainbows International     |
| Martin Palmer      |                  | HSBC Bank                  |

AMcI welcomed all members attending the meeting and introduces the guest, Councillors and Officers of Charnwood Borough Council

Councillor Peter Lewis  
Councillor Terry Yardley  
Steven Phipps  
Ian Kirtly  
Dave Puxley

The President explained that following the last meeting he had written to the Cllr. David Slater Chair of the Car Park Panel of Charnwood Borough Council and the result being Cllr Peter Lewis and Terry Yardley were attending this meeting to give a presentation about the present thoughts of the council on this matter and to listen to members opinions to take back to the council.

Cllr Lewis explained the Brh.Council's present approach to reaching a compromise with parking in the interest of all concerned; Cllr Yardley added his comment in support. Paul Hull responded addressing the concerns of town businesses and councillor Lewis added further information with regard to systems, which allowed people to pay on exit. Parking panel members were to view a system of pay on exit at Northampton an invitation for a Chamber representative to attend was accepted. Tony Simmons referred to a suggestion made last year to having periods of free parking for special occasions such as the late night shopping event at Christmas and possible 1 to 3 hours free concessionary parking at other special times or just as an encouragement to improved trade. Mr Lovesey asked if concessions could be worked out for market traders as in a number of cases they incur considerable expense. A proposal had been put forward that parking fees be included with the stall rents. Some criticism was levelled at the large number of invalid parking spaces, many of which it has been observed are not well used. A number being at a fair distance from the main shopping area. Extra taxi parking was also high lighted and a request made for more rank positions. Public transport users have no indication of taxi rank locations. Adjacent ranks and better signs are required. Concern was expressed that parking difficulties were the reason for possible loss of small retailers and also discouragement for new small retailers from setting up in town. The Chamber has to work with the Brh. Council to attract the national and larger retailer to create a suitable environment that will support the smaller retailers.

**Chamber Minutes 15<sup>th</sup> August 2005. page 2.**

To encourage more business Market Traders Association in co-operation with the Leicester Mercury were proposing to bring customers in from the outer areas by bus.

Opinion was expressed that for any proposals to be implemented all councillors should be similarly lobbied. Not just the leaders

The president summarised the discussion bring it to an end and expressing the thanks of the Chamber to Cllrs. Peter Lewis, Terry Yardley and officer Steve Phipps for them having attending the meeting.

Economic Development Issues Iain Kirtley and Dave Puxly of the economic Development unit of C.B. were given the floor to outline the opportunities open to business in the town and to explain how the Chamber can help with the economic development issues in the town. The department has access to a number of databases, which provide information to existing and new business. Mike Smallman asked for their opinions of having further development land made available for industry and a variety of retail and service industries and question 2, what does Loughborough need by the way of industry office and services to make it more vibrant and prosperous? There was a need for further land being available and they were lobbying for this to happen, as for the types of business needed a good cross section of activity was required as there were always changes taking place with established business

The President responded that a proposed business/science park was planned which hopefully would give a good cross section of new business to the town. In response a member expressed concern about the present labour situation with people having to be bused in every day and a vacancy list of 270 jobs to fill, where were the employees for all the expected new business to come from? It was admitted that there is a short term problem but with the proposed housing development in the Borough the situation it was hoped would ease. One member made a suggestion that the borough should provide more small business units both retails and industrial. From another it was an opinion that Loughborough had to decide either to be an internationally recognised centre or pursue the small market town concept. The president summarised mentioning the requirement of a link up of web facilities. He thanked Iain and Dave for their attendance and looked forward to a full program of co-operation.

**Apologies for absence** Anna Seddon Loughborough University Alex Reid Mather Jamie Martin Shannon Marsh & Moss Roy Jessop, Vicki Brind Secretary

### **Minutes of the meeting 18<sup>th</sup> July and matter arising**

Petition for car parking await the outcome of the discussion just taken place.

Wrote to Councillor David Slater the result was the presentation of the day

Mick Smallman responded to the Eastern Gateway project .Going to cabinet on the 1<sup>st</sup> September for appointment of preferred developer

Alvin Bailiss arranged for Ashleigh Russell to attend the November meeting still to be confirmed.

Meeting with Max Hunt proved most productive item proposed Loughborough open day to promote the town. Next year a meeting with the Mayors of the twin cities to promote the town Every encouragement was given to keep open good lines of communication.

New member breakfast meeting format to be worked out.

Write to Andy Reid re Visit to the House of Commons

Mike Smallman pursuing Roy Jessop over the members certificate and frames, certificate believed now to be out of date new ones to be printed

### **Local business issues**

Parish Green Project good progress being made

**Correspondence**

Meeting of the group Charnwood Action for Fair Trade 7<sup>th</sup> September volunteer required.  
C.B. Consultation document Ashby Road conservation area not a matter for the Chamber.  
L.A.T.I. 20<sup>th</sup> Sept Social function "A Pork Pie Experience" a visit to Dickinsons & Morris  
Melton Mowbray cost £10.00 per person.

Creative & Arts Business Development in Leicestershire & Rutland Launch of the program  
September & October Web Site [www.creativeleicestershire.org.uk](http://www.creativeleicestershire.org.uk)

Leicester city Council Provisional Central Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 will  
apply for a copy

Loughborough Enterprise Club Annual Dinner October 2005 function at Prestwold Hall  
seeking sponsors and attendees.

LCC annual plan major issues to address 2005-2006 Second part past performance indicators  
all available on the LCC web site.

Communication for the next meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> September at Astra Zenica

From Neil Lambert Charnwood CVS bid for funding. President agreed to put the Chambers  
name to the bid. Results due in August ; will consult the Chamber on the spending  
programme. Newsletter received

Newsletter from LCC

**Sub Committees**

**Safety Partnership** meeting due next week Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August PAC AB will attend.

**Retail group** not met suggest high profile meeting get in touch with Andy Reed understand  
Church Gate retailers forming their own group ask leader to join our meeting

**Chamber web site** Roy Jessop has completed the necessary work and Tim from Greenway to  
give a presentation if every body was in agreement.

**Treasure report** The current bank balance is £3689.42 and 14 memberships are still  
outstanding these were being pursued.

**Events**

The Race meeting at Uttoxeter on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2005 all organised with 22  
members going at a cost £106.00 each cheque payable to LCT final number to be confirmed  
with the race course.

Annual Cocktail Party to be held at The Priory Nanpantan 21<sup>st</sup> September details to be  
confirmed with a visit to the Priory by AMcI/MS Wednesday 17 August at 12-30pm.

New Members Breakfast meeting 11<sup>th</sup> October 2005 at the Printroom Café Bar Arrive 08-30  
for a 09-00 start invitations to be organised.

House of Commons

Detailed arrangements still to be sorted out AMcI to take up the matter with Andy Reid (MP)

## **Chamber Minutes 15<sup>th</sup> August 2005. page 4.**

Dates of forthcoming monthly meetings of the Executive Committee

|                            |   |                         |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 19 <sup>th</sup> September | - | Astra Zeneca            |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> October   | - | John Storer House       |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> November  | - | Ramada Jarvis           |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> December  | - | The Printroom Café Bar  |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> January   | - | Loughborough University |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> February  | - | Ramada Jarvis           |

### **Any other Business**

Cocktail party: a member enquiry if any approaches had been made regarding sponsorship? answer not at present..

It is understood that the Syston Chamber of Trade had joined the Leicestershire Chambers of Commerce PAC was to investigate.

### **Date of the Next Meeting**

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2005 at 6.00pm – Astra Zeneca following a tour of the premises starting at 4.30pm.**