

LOUGHBOROUGH CHAMBER OF TRADE & COMMERCE

Minutes of Executive Committee meeting held on Monday 20th March 2007

In attendance

Brian McInnes	President	AstraZeneca
Carla MacTavish	Secretary	AstraZeneca
Adrian McInnes	Vice President	William Davis
Vicki Brind		Carillon Windows
Philip Collin		Charnwood Funerals
Alvin Bailiss		Zodiac Recruitment
David Exley		The Rushes Shopping Centre
Baljit Kooner		Carillon Court Shopping Centre
Jo Pagett		Charnwood Tourism Development LPL
David Pagett-Wright		Moss Solicitors
Martin Shannon		Marsh and Moss
Michael Smallman		Del Rosa Developments Ltd
Paul Hull		PSH Telecoms Ltd
Stephen Foster		Rent A Washa
Peter Sharpe		Honorary Member
Karen Cunnington		Paperweight

1. Apologies for Absence

David Urwin, Stuart Simpson, Alex Reid, Maggie Robinson, Jim Harkness, Roy Jessop.

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting 19/02/07 were accepted as a true record.

3. Presentation by Jon Walker - University Strategy 2007-2016

Jon presented the University plans for the future, this is a high level strategy that has been agreed with Charnwood Borough Council. More detailed implementations will be discussed with them in July 2007.

Key Messages:

- Build on strengths
- Research drive
- Applied research
- Working with Industry

Key points for local economy and business:

- Staff and Student Spend: The University generates 10% of Loughborough GDP.
- Accommodation: Campus/town balance ensuring a 'soft landing', avoiding excess empty accommodation space in town.
- Science and Enterprise Park: To be developed in conjunction with local authorities/organisations.
- Sports Park 2016
- Growth where needed. Could be academic staff or researchers not just students.
- Students as workforce.

Questions and Answers:

DPW: Internationalism – Are you looking to broaden where you intake students from?

JW: The University wants to grow and currently there is too much reliance on certain areas so we need to broaden our in take areas possibly to areas such as West Africa, Pakistan, India and Europe.

DPW: Are you looking to drive working with other University's?

JW: We currently have a number of research partnerships with other University's but now we want to move to more formal agreements where our and their strengths are.

DPW: Can the University give guidance on the increase in the number of student's living in the Town so over building doesn't occur?

JW: It's very difficult to try to guess the number of students who will live in the Town. We are working with the Council to give some guidance but if a business were to ask the University we would let them know that student accommodation is a dangerous and turbulent market to enter in to. The 2012 Olympics is not a driver for expansion, all of the accommodation the University will build for the students will have an alternative way of drawing income during non term time.

The Chamber would like to thank Jon for his informative presentation.

4. Local business issues

There was nothing to report.

5. Correspondence

The correspondence sent to the Chamber this month included:

- Pedestrianisation email from Tim Charlsey regarding how pedestrianisation has affected Loughborough. Members felt it was a positive change and had proved to be a success. BMC to respond.

Action BMC

- A card from the Mayor of Loughborough was received as a thank you for the donation to the County Air Ambulance.

All correspondence received will be forwarded to the members if appropriate.

6. Sub Committees

i) Charnwood Community Safety Partnership

Phillip Collins: PC advised that there has been a true reduction in crime figures for the borough recently and the neighbourhood-policing scheme is working well. The next meeting will take place one week before the next LCTC Executive Committee meeting, if members have any issues they would like to raise please forward them to secretary@loughboroughchamber.co.uk

- ii) CCTV
Alvin Bailiss announced that they would be moving to 24/7 monitoring in the near future.
- iii) Fair-trade Steering Group
Martin Shannon advised that it is one year since the fair trade application had been granted and it is now up for renewal. The application has been completed and will be submitted shortly.
- iv) Town Team
Mick Smallman reported the details of the brochure would be finalised by Jonathan Hale shortly. He commented the script and text were ok, the photographic work, layout and plans are poor. Don Wicks a local historian will now be providing photographs of the Town. The correct presentation will be reviewed at the next meeting on the 9th May.
- v) Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)
Adrian McInnes advised the members that the Charnwood Partnership website has been launched. The link will be forwarded to the members.
Action AMc
- vi) Loughborough Town Centre Partnership
Adrian McInnes informed the members a questionnaire has been agreed that will be sent out to local business, it is designed to collate information and to let people know the partnership is there.
- vii) East Midlands Airport Consultative Committee
Peter Collins advised he wasn't able to attend the last meeting. The minutes he receives can be reviewed at the next Chamber meeting.

7. Membership

A membership has been received from Debtco One Ltd. Secretary to forward to treasurer.

Action CMc

8. Marketing

Greenwave currently administers the web. BMc, AMc, DPW and Tim Rodgers to meet and discuss website options.

9. Treasurer's Report

Nothing to report.

10. Events

- i) Audience with Nicky Morgan - 30th March 2007
DPW, AMc, MS, DU and BMc will be in attendance. To confirm with Nicky.

Action CMc

- ii) Skittles Evening - TBA
CMc to contact AB to discuss dates and places.

Action CMc

The Events taking place over the next year will include:

- Annual Cocktail Party
- September Ball
- Race Event Day at the races
- Golf Day

The Events Committee will help to arrange these activities. BMC also suggested a networking event for this year.

Forthcoming Executive Committee meetings:

Monday 16 th April	-	Ramada Hotel (Loughborough)
Monday 21 st May	-	Ramada Hotel (Loughborough)
Monday 18 th June	-	Ramada Hotel (Loughborough)

11. LCTC Executive Ways of Working

Information Sharing / Action Planning / Progress Monitor?

BMC asked the members how they would like to function so that there is a balance between information sharing, action progress and networking/social events. He proposed at the next meeting the members discuss an additional agenda item 'Objectives and Ways of Working to best support our members'.

Please see attached document



"LCTC
Objectives.190307.ppt

12. Any Other Business

Paul Hull raised concerns over the current state of retail in Loughborough and whether enough was being done to improve the position.

Adrian McInnes reported he has been invited to sit on the Economic Development sub committee. This involves looking at developing an economic strategy for Leicestershire. The first meeting will take place week commencing 26th March.

13. Meeting Round Up

- Jon Walker of the Vice Chancellors Office at Loughborough University gave a very informative update on the University strategy 2007-2016.
- The Chamber fully endorses the Fair-trade renewal application.
- The members discussed the workings of the group and agreed to additional consideration of its approach and objectives going forward.
- The members recognised concerns around businesses closing and the importance of the Chamber continuing to act to support maintaining and improving the retail environment.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 16th April 2007 at 6.00 pm – Ramada Hotel, Loughborough.