

**LOUGHBOROUGH CHAMBER OF TRADE & COMMERCE**  
**Minutes of Executive Committee meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2008**

**In attendance**

Brian McInnes (BMc)	President	AstraZeneca
Carla MacTavish (CMc)	Secretary	Loughborough University
Adrian McInnes (AMc)	Vice President	William Davis
Alvin Bailliss (AB)		Zodiac Recruitment
David Pagett-Wright (DPW)		Moss Solicitors
Jim Harkness (JH)		Travail Employment Group
Karen Cunnington (KC)		Paperweight
Stuart Simpson (SS)		SJS
David Exley (DE)		The Rushes Shopping Centre
Dan Martin (DM)		Leicester Mercury
Stephen Foster (SF)		Rent A Washa
Philip Collin (PC)		Charnwood Funerals
Karl Letten (KL) (Item 2)		Charnwood Borough Council
Jon Walker (JW) (Item 3)		Loughborough University

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Vicki Brind, Mike Smallman, Martin Shannon, Roy Jessop, Maggie Robinson, Peter Sharpe, Richard Hornsby.

**2. Charnwood Declaration on Climate Control – Karl Letten CBC**

Karl Letten of Charnwood Borough Council presented the Climate Change Declaration to the members present. A sub group, put together from the Local Strategic Partnership and Charnwood Together have produced a local community strategy which included the development of the Climate Change Declaration. The declaration is asking businesses to sign up to acknowledge the climate problem and work together to reduce waste, energy use and tackle transportation issues. A Local Resource Efficiency group will be set up to advise businesses of local organisations and resources that can help to address these issues. CBC are aiming for 100% of members to the LCTC and the LSP to sign the declaration. BMC asked KL what steps CBC are taking to address the issue and be pro-active rather than pushing all the responsibility back onto businesses. There are currently no recycling opportunities offered to business by CBC. KL advised CBC have identified key areas within the community to develop. AMc requested an opportunity to review the declaration before signing, members present agreed.

**KL to email the declaration and strategy to the Secretary.**

**Action KL**

**Secretary to forward to the members.**

**Action CMc**

**3. Update from Loughborough University – Jon Walker**

Jon Walker of Loughborough University gave an update to members on the developments and successes of the University over the last six months.

The University has been awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education 2007. This is the sixth time the University have been awarded this prestigious prize. The prize has been awarded to the Vehicle Safety Research Centre (VSRC) and the Driver Sleepiness Research Group (DSRG) for the unit's research into driver/ vehicle safety and crash prevention.

The University has won two 2007 Times Higher Awards; for the Best Student Experience, and Outstanding Support for Overseas Students. This is the second year that the University has picked up the Best Student Experience title. Both awards presented to Loughborough were the only two to be voted for by students.

The Midlands Consortium, made up of the universities of Loughborough Birmingham and Nottingham are to host the Energy Technology Institute a research project into the development of cleaner energies. The head quarters of the Energy Technology Institute has been secured at Loughborough's Holywell Park. The ETI project is research into low carbon technologies and their commercial exploitation.

The continued development of the campus can be seen from Epinal Way with the new Health and Exercise Bio-Science building and Ashby Road where 1300 student bedrooms are being built in the student village. The University currently has a detailed planning application submitted for the development of a Sports Park. An outline planning application for the development of a Science and Enterprise Park has also been submitted. This would open up links with industry both by attracting research and development activities from industry which require access to university expertise and providing facilities for its own researchers to develop their ideas.

The University will continue to play an important role in the development and preparation of Britain's athletes for the 2012 Olympics despite the recent announcement by the British Olympic Association that the official Team GB holding camp will be at Aldershot.

AMc commented that the Universities successes are a fantastic achievement and should be recognised as a huge asset to the town.

JW advised the University will continue to work with the Chamber and CBC to promote Loughborough and develop the town.

#### **4. Correspondence**

BMc received a consultation document on the development of the area between the Council offices and the Police Station. The site previously occupied by Bridge House. The application is for the lease of the land to site a budget hotel. The plan includes no spaces for car parking on the site. A proposal to reserve forty parking spaces in Beehive Lane car park for the hotel guests has been submitted. The Chamber members present agreed that the Beehive Lane Pay on Foot trial needs to be implemented before any other new initiatives are investigated. BMC advised the members that the Chamber will be consulted if the application is progressed.

The Citizens Advice Bureau are currently seeking trustees that could spare a few hours a week to give advice on behalf of the CAB. If you are interested and have the time please contact the CAB direct.

The North Charnwood Networking Event is being held at the Marriot Hotel, Grove Park, Leicester. Please let the secretary know if you are available to attend.

The Holocaust Memorial Service will be held in Queens Park at 1.30pm on Sunday 27th January 2008.

All correspondence received was forwarded to the members, no comments were received. For further information please contact [secretary@loughboroughchamber.co.uk](mailto:secretary@loughboroughchamber.co.uk)

#### **7. Sub Committees**

##### **i) Charnwood Community Safety Partnership**

AB attended the recent meeting and advised that there was a general feeling of concern at the levels of delinquency in and around town.

##### **ii) CCTV**

AB advised the head quarters for the CCTV will be moving out of the Police Station in to larger premises on Victoria Place. A representative has been hired to promote CCTV to the town and surrounding

villages with a view to generate enough money for the unit to become self sufficient. Once the new premises are up and running AB suggested members are given the opportunity to see the control room and operations. AB to make arrangements for future tours.

**Action AB**

**iii) Fair-trade Steering Group**

There was nothing to report.

**iv) Town Team**

BMc reported Mike Smallman and Don Wicks are working on an opposition document on behalf of the Town Team in relation to the Domain hospital site planning application as the application has now gone to an appeal.

**v) Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)**

AMc reported the partnership are currently working with Charnwood Together to develop a Community Strategy and a Charnwood Sustainable Community Strategy.

**vi) Loughborough Town Centre Partnership**

AMc reported the LTCP had delivered an excellent Christmas programme this year and the members present agreed. A committee to look at the plans for 2008 has already been formed; the committee will look at national events with the intention of bringing them to Loughborough in the future.

**vii) East Midlands Airport Consultative Committee**

PC attended the recent meeting and shared the minutes with the members present. The minutes are available at [www.eastmidlandsairport.com/emaweb.nsf/Content/IndependentConsultativeCommittee](http://www.eastmidlandsairport.com/emaweb.nsf/Content/IndependentConsultativeCommittee)

**8. Items for Discussion**

There were no items raised for discussion.

**9. Membership**

There have been 2 new membership applications received since the last meeting.

The Chamber welcomes its new members:

Alcock and Grieves - Andrew Hardy

Mac and White Catering - Sally McInnes

A membership meeting has been arranged between Maggie Robinson, Rachel Hargreaves, BMc and AMc to discuss using Rachel's marketing experience to promote the Chamber.

CMc to bring the Leicestershire Chamber Directory to the next meeting.

**Action CMC**

CMc to amend Stuart Simpson's database entry and David Paget-Wright's email address.

**Action CMC**

Maggie Robinson has requested a database of Executive Members with contact details. CMc to arrange.

**Action CMC**

**10. Website**

A new website is currently being created by Green wave. The current site is temporarily on hold until the new site is published. Please follow the link [www.loughboroughchamber.co.uk/draft/](http://www.loughboroughchamber.co.uk/draft/) to view the draft of the site and send any feedback or comments you have to the secretary at [secretary@loughboroughchamber.co.uk](mailto:secretary@loughboroughchamber.co.uk) by 1<sup>st</sup> March 2008.

## 12. Events

The events proposed for this year can be seen below; the dates suggested are the equivalent of the day they were held on last year:

28 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Race Day
17 <sup>th</sup> August	-	BBQ
11 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Cocktail Evening
10 <sup>th</sup> September	-	Golf Day
8 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Business Workshop
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	-	Presidents Dinner Dance
15 <sup>th</sup> December	-	Executive Christmas Dinner

Please send your comments and any suggestions for events that could be run this year to the secretary at [secretary@loughboroughchamber.co.uk](mailto:secretary@loughboroughchamber.co.uk)

AB to invite JH to next Events Committee meeting.

AB proposed DPW give a presentation on Employment Law at a future Executive meeting, AB to investigate this further with the Events Committee.

Forthcoming Executive Committee meetings:

18 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	-	Ramada Hotel (Loughborough)
17 <sup>th</sup> March 2008	-	Ramada Hotel (Loughborough)

## 13. Any Other Business

AMc and BMc attended the recent CBC Rate Payers meeting. This was an opportunity to look at the Councils budget for next year. CBC has reportedly received a good Labghi settlement which they have ring-fenced and committed to use to support local businesses.

The AGM will be held in March. 30 days notice will be given to members along with the minutes of the last AGM meeting. The accounts will be prepared and distributed prior to the meeting. At the next Executive meeting the committee member nominations will be made.

BMc to contact the treasurer regarding the accounts.

**Action BMc**

## 14. Date of Next Meeting

18 <sup>th</sup> February 2008	-	Ramada Hotel (Loughborough)
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