

MINUTES OF THE HOLT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMMITTEE

Meeting date Friday 17th December 2010 8.30 a.m. at
Bakers & Larners Number Ten

Attending: Esme (Chair) EBO, Nina Baker (NB), Di DD, Josh from josh.biz (JD) Sarah Tribe (ST), Tom and Jen. John Lintott, Chairman of the Chamber of Trade was in attendance.

Agenda:

1. Apologies:

Duncan (DB)

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 5th November 2010

These were agreed and signed. The Notes of the meeting held on 16th November were accepted.

3. Matters arising not included on the agenda

The Chairman thanked everyone for their efforts on Switch On Night on 24th November, she appreciated that everyone had worked very hard to make it happen and particularly so on the night when weather conditions had been dreadful. She thanked retiring members ST, DB and DD for their tremendous efforts.

4. Treasurers Report / Fund Raising

NB gave a summary of the present financial situation, although bank statements were awaited before the financial statement could be confirmed.

There was likely to be about £2600 left in the account for passing over to the 2011 event. HTC was due to pay for the Reindeer and HCLC due to pay HTC for the printing of the leaflets. There was also an account to pay to NCC for road closure provided the original amount of £450 had been repaid into the HCLC Account.

Most expenses had been paid out but it was **AGREED** to pay £50 to Rob Morley's Charity. Rob, the Fire work operator, would receive a letter of thanks.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their huge effort with the fund raising which had been a grueling task and it was **AGREED** that letters of thanks would be sent to everyone who had donated and asked if they would at this stage like to commit to the 2011 event.

A refund of £50 was due to the Christmas wreath stall as they had been situated in a difficult position.

The Committee would be seeking a fund raiser for 2011

5. Trees and Lights

ST advised that some lights would be stored by C and O and other lights left in situ. At least two quotes for lighting would need to be obtained as early as February. She also had quotes for other parts of the town should they be needed. Collecting boxes would stay out until 5th January and then Break would hopefully help by collecting them in and counting the money. Collecting tins would end to be stored by someone – there were 3 boxes. She asked that a risk assessment be done for future events.

6. Entertainments

There was nothing to report. DB would be asked if he could write a letter of thanks for the Video, JD would assist with this.

7. Late Night Shopping.

This had been reasonably successful with about 60% shops opening. There had been some disappointment from visitors that Bakers and Larners were not open. It was noted that the limited advance warning of the 2010 event had been too late for B and L to make the necessary arrangements. After discussion on the future of the Lights Switch on event it was **AGREED** that a recommendation would be made to the Chamber of Trade that there should be no Switch On event in 2011 but that the lights be put on one week earlier than this year i.e. 16th November 2011. It was further **AGREED** that Wednesday late night shopping should be progressed with some entertainment in the yards.

This would avoid the problems and expense of: Road Closure; conflicts arising from positioning stall holders against shops which may or may not be open; avoiding conflicts with street hawkers; problems arising from the management of crowds and traffic; clarity on how the money was being spent.

Extending the lights a further week would maximize the value of this for the town. Shop keepers would hopefully have less inhibitions about opening for the late night shopping evenings.

8. Publicity

A video was now on the website. The publicity had worked well, but with the atrocious weather on the night, people had come but not stayed.

9. Website

JD said that he would really like to have on the site some information about next year. Also, by encouraging people to commit now for 2011 they could then be on the site a lot earlier.

10. Community Centre

Craft Stalls pitches were all been taken. Owing to the bad weather the Stilt walker had had difficulty in leading the procession.

11. Road Closure

Volunteers had responded to DD appeal letters and had withstood the difficult conditions well. An e mail from the police was considered by Committee members who expressed concern at the charges to be imposed by the police for cones and other matters DD would reply.

12. Bucket collectors.

It was noted that £386.99 had been raised and the Chairman signed the license form which would be returned to NNDC. A question was raised as to why Gresham's school was collecting money for the Air Ambulance and why money was being collected also by the Help for Heroes outside Budgens.

Letters of thanks had been sent to volunteers and the collection total had been advertised.

13. Date of next meeting

This was set as Friday 7th January 2011 6.00 p.m. Byfords.

DD was thanked for paying for the coffees. The meeting closed at 9.30 a.m.

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