

**Minutes of the Wotton-under-Edge Chamber of Trade  
Held at the British Legion on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2006**

**Attendance:** Dave Jones; Marge Cole; Gareth Kitchen; Karin Gray; Sarah McCabe  
Peter & Hilary Roberts; Abi Hutchinson; Keith & Wendy Bryon; John Cordwell; Nicki Train;  
Nicola Jotcham; Alex & Claire Wilkinson; Steve & Sam MacQuigg

- 1) Welcome by Alex, President of Chamber of Trade
- 2) Apologies: Jacqui Moore, Wotton Farm Shop; Judy Parry; June Cordwell; Joanne Taylor; Verity; Gary Keene; Kate (Clarences)
- 3) Minutes of last meeting approved by Gareth Kitchen – seconded by Dave Jones
- 4) Review of Christmas under the Edge – All agreed it was a great success; Gazette reviews were passed around. A big thank-you to Nicki and Jo + Christmas Committee for all their hard work. Approximately £600 profit – half to be given to local charities. It was agreed the following charities to benefit:  
Wotton Sports Foundation  
Wotton Silver Band  
Bluecoat School PTA & British School PTA  
Agreed to repeat next year so volunteers needed for next Christmas event (both Nicki and Jo not available to do this). **Volunteers required.**
- 5) Agenda for 2006 – it was agreed to hold meetings every other month with agenda produced for each one. Therefore meetings will be – 16<sup>th</sup> March, 18<sup>th</sup> May with the AGM 29<sup>th</sup> June; 21<sup>st</sup> September, 16<sup>th</sup> November (? Cheese & wine).  
Provisional date for Christmas under the Edge day – 9<sup>th</sup> December – to be confirmed.
- 6) Summer event – only if volunteers are willing to come forward to run an event. Possible link with other organisations- i.e. Lions and Round Table. Generally thought too late for something this summer but possibly something next year.
- 7) Social events – suggestions for social events to attract more members to attend the meetings:  
Business Forum – local businesses to have opportunity to exhibit their services with use of stands, speakers, projection, etc. FSB hold a similar event in Tetbury. If agreed, suitable venue to be found, e.g. Civic Centre.  
  
New Year's Dinner – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February at McQuiggs. £25 per head for around 40 people. Proposed menu circulated – **Post meeting note – all members have now been e-mailed with menu attached – rsvp by 10<sup>th</sup> February.**  
Other social events proposed – skittles evening at British Legion, cheese & wine tasting at the Falcon.
- 8) Any other business Proposed changes to waiting restrictions on Long Street -proposals to move bays for disabled parking and taxi rank further eastwards along Long Street and that between 6.30 a.m. and 9.00 a.m. these would be used exclusively for loading and unloading purposes. After 9.00 a.m. they would revert to disabled parking/taxi rank. Existing disabled parking/taxi rank bay will be removed and revert to general on-street parking, similarly to that along the remainder of Long Street.  
Dave Jones (Co-op Manager) pointed out that this will cause difficulties as the majority of disabled people cross the road to visit Lloyds Pharmacy and the bench

situated outside the Co-op is used by people waiting for taxis, so these bays are better placed for them.

It was agreed that Chamber of Trade will write and object to the proposed removal of existing disabled/taxi parking bays and that they remain where they are at present but with loading between 6.30 a.m. and 9.00 a.m.; after 9.00 a.m. they revert to disabled parking/taxi rank bays.

‘Shop Local’ scheme – funding has been secured for £2,000 to be spent on canvas shopping bags with Tolsey Clock printed on them to be distributed amongst traders on the 1st April to either give away or sell for around 50p to £1.00., together with shopping lists. This is a drive to encourage people to shop locally. Vouchers could be given to shoppers who spend a certain amount in one shop, which will then be placed in a raffle draw. Volunteers will be needed to distribute the bags and collect vouchers. Meeting with Town Council to be arranged. **Volunteers required.**

Nicola now has all the e-mail addresses of members for distribution of minutes, agendas, etc. Those without e-mail to receive by post.

Co-op refurbishment starting in June/July to be carried out in three phases and finishing in 2007. Plans available for members at next meeting.

Membership drive – Chamber of Trade will write again to those who have now responded to first communication.

**Date of next meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2006 at the British Legion at 7.30 p.m.**