



Minutes of Todmorden Business Association Meeting
Held Thursday 24th March 2011, 6pm at The Bear Cafe

Attending Lynne Midwinter, Nicki Hewson Betts, Sarah Helliwell, John & Gitta Tattersall, Rosemary Holcroft, Sandra Evans and Carl Warburton, Hazel Bregazzi, Rob (Calder Valley Soaps), Justin (Hole In The Wall)

Apologies Rhian Warhurst, Mathanee (Hanuman Thai), Michael Uren

- **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Were agreed as being an accurate representation of the meeting, by those who had attended.

- **Matters Arising from Last Minutes**

NHB approached Creative Graphics for database of Todmorden businesses for membership letter to be sent. This has been forwarded on to SH.

Flood Alleviation is going ahead soon. There are marking all over Todmorden that have been made by surveyors to see where the river goes etc.

- **Treasurer's Report**

Have some accounts in the office.

There is a request in to the bankruptcy administrator for Acorn for the money that was paid out for Kids Fest. NHB has sent this all off, without receipts. SH brought these over and NHB will forward these on to the administrator. Will hand all the Acorn Centre bankruptcy information over to SH.

- **Administrator's Replacement**

No-one in place currently. There are now two people interested in the position. LM, SH and NHB will meet and discuss the suitability of them, and maybe meet them together. This meeting should happen on April 8th

- **Made In Tod 2011 Review**

Most of the people at the meeting had been exhibitors at Made In Tod. The consensus around the table was that it had been a good exhibition. The feedback on the feedback forms was mostly positive – negative comments were about the front of the town hall and promotion only. RH hadn't been an exhibitor but had increased people into the gallery who had been at Made In Tod. The town itself was buzzing all weekend.

It was agreed by all present that paying for the carpark to be free was a good idea and could have improved the flow of people from Made In Tod to other businesses in Todmorden and vice versa. This should be repeated for next year.

The numbers from Rotary show that there were 911 people through the door on Saturday and over 500 on Sunday. This was more than last year. This proves that holding it over the weekend is more successful than having it on Friday/Saturday. This should be repeated for next year.

The IET market worked. It would be nice to have the sticky-out bit just as a local producers market, but this causes problems with the market and may not be allowed to happen.

The brochures were brilliant and exactly perfect for our needs. 1000 was enough – in fact there were a few over. However, it was thought that 2000 flyers was not enough. These were all distributed in the run up to the event, and there were none left for distribution around the market on the day. It was thought that next year should get at least 3000 flyers. 100 posters was sufficient.



Friends of Overgate and Scouts made lots of money by doing the tea and coffee and it was thought that they should both be invited again.

The date for next year's Made In Tod was suggested as 3rd and 4th March 2012. NHB will check that it is available and book it as appropriate.

- **Supermarkets Update**

MU went to the meeting at the Town Hall. This had been called by the SORTIT campaign.

Apparently MU spoke eloquently about what had happened in Rawtenstall when big supermarkets came and said that it would be a terrible thing to happen to Tod. The Bear have plans to hire a bus to take people to Halifax when the meeting about Sainsburys is taking place. Sainsburys have now pulled their plans, because there are issues about the design.

Netto have had both plans passed by Calderdale Council last week. Netto now decide which set of plans to go ahead with. Justin suggested that it be passed along to the relevant people that they should ask for a full survey of both buildings for their historical relevance and Art Deco content to be recorded. Apparently this happens all the time in Northumberland. LM will pass this information on to Paul Clarke.

It was discussed that the planning department in Calderdale Council is not fully functioning – they are understaffed and those working there are not being as discreet about their feelings about the workings of the department and how they feel about their own job.

- **Any Other Business**

- JT had checked out with his friend about material for tree-wrapping at Christmas time. His friend produces silver blankets used after marathons etc. He would be able to sell 100m for £70. The material is 1.5 metres wide and so should make it much easier to wrap the trees.
- Justin would like to pedestrianise Water Street one day a month. The logic behind it is to try to open up the street a bit and encourage potential customers down it. It would also enable the businesses to spill over a bit and be more creative. He would like the support and assistance of the TBA. He was directed towards Libby at Gusto who sorted out the street closure at Christmas who can help him with contacts in the council and who is a Water Street trader.
- Todmorden Conservation Society has asked if we want to send a representative to their meetings to discuss about things like doing up shop frontages etc. Paul Clarke is going to email to LM and she will forward it on / bring the information to the next meeting.
- CW was approached at Made In Tod by the Yorkshire Post who want to do a story on him.
- NHB has had 26th November confirmed as the date that the Christmas lights are going to be switched on. This date was one of them suggested as appropriate by Rev Owen and agreed on as the best. It was forwarded on to Tod Town Council, who have agreed on this at committee. NHB is to contact Rev Owen to make sure that he has been informed as well.
- The committee room A in the Town Hall as been booked for the first planning meeting for Christmas. This meeting will take place on July 11th at 6pm.

- **Next Meeting**

This will be the AGM and as such needs to be advertised 28 days beforehand. This will take place at 4th May 2011 at 6pm. Venue as yet needs to be decided. NHB will contact Dominic at Tod News for him to advertise it. LM would like to remind everyone present that she intends to step down as Chair at the AGM.