HOLT TOWN COUNCIL

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(Office hours: 9.00 – 12.00 Monday / Wednesday/ Friday)

Minutes of the Vision Strategy Committee Meeting held on Monday 28th January 2013 at Holt Community Centre.

PRESENT: The Mayor Cllr B Payne (Chairman), Cllrs Allison (Vice Chairman)**,** Batey, Hipperson, Moore, and Prior. NNDC Cllr P High. John Mullen Project Manager NNDC.
Di Dann, Town Clerk
1 member of the public.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr D Baker, NNDC Cllr M Baker.
Julie Nelson Chamber of Trade representative was poorly.

Noted that Rodney Bennett had resigned owing to other commitments

2 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS AND DECLARATIONS

There were no other declarations.

3 THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2nd JULY 2012. On a PROPOSAL by Cllr High **SECONDED** by Cllr Hipperson the minutes were **APPROVED** and signed by the MAYOR.

The Mayor introduced Mr Charles Sanders from Sanders Coaches to talk about a possible round town bus service. This was one of the projects identified in the Vision (refer Thriving Communities). The Mayor outlined the hope that a service might be established with possibly 6 stops including the doctor's surgery.

Mr Sanders explained that the surgery was only accessible for an 8 seater bus, otherwise the nearest place to stop would be the Kelling PO. There was already an hourly service leaving the bus deport and going down Charles Road, Coronation Road and on into town. The national average for concessionary bus passes was 34%. NCC had a shortfall in funding and had offered bus routes without reimbursement for the concessionaries. A bus service would have to stand on its own financially and meet the cost of salaries, insurance, vehicle costs and so on. An increase in population, say by 1000, could assist the situation and the new estate when built (H09) would need to have a bus route

and accessibility issues identified at an early stage.
Sanders did have 8 seater buses which were used as training vehicle.
A service between 9.30 and 2.30 (between school travel times) could be viable.
A bedding in time of 18 months was needed for any new service.

John Mullen was able to advise that cross party discussions were taking place at District level on public transport and transport needs in the rural area.

The Mayor thanked Mr Sanders for the discussion.

Public Participation and Discussion was opened at 7.45 p.m.

There was concern that the Caring Society was possibly struggling to meet its commitments to passengers. It needed to be identified as to whether this was for visits to the surgery or visits to Norwich hospital or both. Liz Traynier who organised the Caring Society would need to be involved in the discussions.

There was concern at the lack of accessibility at the surgery and it was considered that the responsibility was on Holt Medical Practice. Cllr Prior would bring this up at the next PPG meeting.

It was **AGREED** to write to Tracey Jessop at NCC Passenger Transport Unit

4. VISION PROJECTS

Lists of the Vision project identified by the consultants under the three categories of Thriving Communities; Stronger Economy; Environment and the Public Realm had been circulated. Much of this was dependent on funding. A reply had been received from NNDC Cllr baker identifying his priorities – one of which was the Hopper Bus Service. All items on the lists were received and it was considered that quite a number of things were being achieved through local discussion. There was also much pressure being put on BT for faster broadband. The town was already being connected with the infrastructure and would go live in June or July with an 80 meg minimum. There were other concerns such as no High School but this was a matter which could be addressed through the Neighbourhood Plan. The Town Council needed to progress the Plan having secured the £20,000 government funding to undertake it.

5. NEXT MEETING

This would be in 6 months time.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

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Chairman Date