

## President's Notes June 2013

### Current Activities

As always there is lots going on within Chamber, although much of the activity is in the background at the moment. We are progressing our application for a Town Centre Manager through the District Council and the s106 money they hold following the Springfields development which is ring-fenced for the marketing and promotion of the town centre. We believe a dedicated manager will ensure that Spalding Town Centre is economically prosperous, dynamic and forward looking for growth, whilst also preserving its unique market town character.

We are also making plans for the Christmas lights switch-on event which will be earlier than previous years so that everyone can enjoy the lights for longer. This year's display will be even better with additional lights on New Road and in Red Lion Street.

We are planning a South Holland Enterprise and Awards Day this autumn which should attract around 300 business delegates from the area, and we have already lined up three superb key note speakers. Details of the event will be available soon.

We are supportive of buses being allowed to run through the centre of town to bring people into the heart of the town. We have for some time been trying to get the bus service that comes from Kings Lynn through the villages and Springfields to stop at the back of Hills/Civic Centre and hope that this could still happen in the near future.

Other activities include, looking to achieve some quick wins in conjunction with the Civic Society from the ideas in the Spalding Waterspace Strategy, planning a new look Visit Spalding Guide for 2014, supporting Shopwatch and the initiatives on retaining CCTV and reducing street drinking, as well as lobbying for the relocation of the Bus Station to a better location nearer the town.

### Spalding Parade

We have been able to facilitate meetings with the many interested local groups and organisations on plans for events for next year. There is a real desire to have a parade but also to have other events to create a weekend of celebration.

### Spalding in Bloom

Chamber are pleased to support Spalding in Bloom, and in addition to the hanging baskets and planters around the town centre, this year there is a competition for the best Front Garden in Spalding. I do hope that residents who take pride in their garden will get involved. The competition is sponsored by Birchgrove Garden Centre and entry forms can be obtained from the Lincs. Free Press Office. Although the weather has not been very good so far this summer, the town centre looks brighter thanks to the bunting.

### AGM

The Chamber AGM takes place on Tuesday 2nd July at the Broad Street Business Centre commencing at 5:45pm. We have a most interesting speaker who will appeal to retailers, service providers and landlords. Richard Hallsworth will speak about the Market Rasen Portas Pilot experience. Richard is a Partner at Nicholsons Accountants and a founding member of Market Rasen BIG that became one of the first Portas Pilot towns. If you are not currently a member and would like to attend, please contact me:

[phil.scarlett@theedgeconsultancy.co.uk](mailto:phil.scarlett@theedgeconsultancy.co.uk)

### Get involved - Join Chamber

You can find out more about Chamber by visiting our website:

[www.spaldingareachamber.co.uk](http://www.spaldingareachamber.co.uk). New members from all business sectors in the South Holland area are most welcome.