

NEWMARKET VISION
MINUTES OF
COMMUNITY PLANNING DELIVERY GROUP

11:00 am

Friday, 24th January, 2014

Venue: Council Chamber,

Newmarket Town Council Offices.

Members present

Cllr Rachel Hood (Chair) NTC
Cllr Rona Burt FHDC
Cllr Michael Jeffreys NTC
Marie Smith FHDC Planning
Graeme Lockey FHDC Economic Development
Neil Anthony FHDC Leisure, Culture, Communities
Robert Feakes SCC Planning
Quentin Cass SCC Property
Graham Abbey Chamber of Commerce
Julian Wilson Stud Farmers' Association/NHG
Sara Beckett Resident

Welcome by Chair and introduction of members

Apologies received from Hugh Anderson (Darley /Newmarket Horseman's Group), Lee Webster (Flagship Housing) and Deputy Town Clerk.

Since April, 2012, local communities have been able to produce Neighbourhood Plans for their local area putting in place planning policies for the future development/growth of their neighbourhoods. Therefore, as a starting point to inform/advise members, 2 presentations were given, one by Marie Smith, at District level, and one by Robert Feakes, at County level. Although these important Government changes have presented new powers that allow for Neighbourhood Planning, the legalities, technicalities, practicalities and costs are all significant factors.

Specific points to note from the Presentations.

- 1) Previous consultations of the Newmarket Vision and The Prince's Foundation Vision can form part of a Neighbourhood Plan but they would have to comply with the NPPF, Core Strategy and emerging Local Plan (which is being prepared by FHDC and due for adoption March 2015)
- 2) A Neighbourhood Plan can be for the whole Town or just for the Town Centre.
- 3) The plan should cover what Newmarket needs/wants and the input should come from residents and businesses, the interested 'parties' that have the future of Newmarket in their hands.

- 4) The Plan must be meaningful in order to contribute to determining planning applications as a material planning consideration.
- 5) The Plan needs to be in line with EU Law.
- 6) The process is well described within the presentation papers but it is lengthy and will incur costs. FHDC cannot cover the costs but grants are available.
- 7) The subject of the alternative Neighbourhood Development Order (NDO) was briefly mentioned but this would appear to be even more complicated/complex

Robert Feakes informed the meeting that SCC has many links and responsibilities which may be helpful when preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and so could help with sourcing funds.

Further general points:

- 1) A neighbourhood plan would not have any influence over the Core Strategy or Local Development Framework which are 'tight' documents but on non-strategic sites the Neighbourhood Plan would take precedence.
- 2) Open Space/Sports facilities: Requirements for Newmarket:
Neil Anthony advised that it would not be possible to detail the Open Space requirements for each Newmarket Ward but he would look to provide relevant information to discuss Open Space and recreation requirements at the next meeting. The sports field at Newmarket College, which is under used, is an example of requirement against need. (The key adviser is Sport England.)
- 3) Neil Anthony recommended that the Group should programme in site visits around Newmarket as part of the work of the Group.

Note:

- 1) Steve Wood has been appointed as the new FHDC Head of Service (Planning) and it is hoped that he will attend the next meeting.
- 2) Marie Smith will invite a member of the FHDC Housing Team to attend the next meeting and will provide the following information/documents to all members:
 - [1] Details of all planning-related FHDC Consultations and the respective timetables;
 - [2] A breakdown of costs of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan;
 - [3] A copy of the Neighbourhood Plan application forms;
 - [4] Speak to Ken Crow about the cost of holding a Referendum in Newmarket;
 - [5] 10 x hard copies of the Prince's Foundation Report;
 - [6] A large map of Newmarket;
- 3) Robert Feakes will provide evidence of need within Newmarket and surrounding area for Social Care in relation to 2:4 of remit.
- 4) Rachel Hood will:
 - [1] Provide copies of the Newmarket Vision Report;
 - [2] Report to the Group on how the other 3 Vision Groups are progressing;
 - [3] Circulate a list of possible meeting dates for the Group throughout 2014.
 - [4] Report back to the Steering group on the progress of the Group.

The Chair thanked the members for attending
The meeting closed at 12:30p.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 20th February at 10a.m. (Apologies from Michael Jefferies)