

**NEWMARKET VISION
MINUTES OF
COMMUNITY PLANNING DELIVERY GROUP**

10:00 am Thursday 20th February 2014

Venue: Council Chamber Offices, Newmarket Town Council

Members present:

Cllr Rachel Hood (Chair) NTC

Cllr Rona Burt FHDC, Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Transport

Steven Wood, West Suffolk Head of Planning & Regulatory Services

Marie Smith, West Suffolk Planning Service Manager

Neil Anthony, West Suffolk Leisure, Culture, Communities

Robert Feakes, SCC, Planning Officer (Policy), Planning and Development Team

Quentin Cass, SCC, Property Transformation Manager

Graham Abbey, Chair, Newmarket Chamber of Commerce

Julian Wilson, Stud Farmers Association/NHG

Hugh Anderson, Godolphin/NHG

Graham Lockey, West Suffolk Principal Growth Officer,

Sara Beckett, Resident

Niki Hollingworth, West Suffolk Housing Development & Strategy Manager

1. Apologies: William Gittus, (Jockey Club) and Michael Jeffreys, NTC.

2. Newmarket Vision: Copies of the Newmarket Vision Report were distributed.

3. Minutes: Confirmation of Minutes from January 24th 2014, subject to:

- (i) Robert Feakes clarified the position regarding funding for a Neighbourhood Plan. SCC would endeavour to assist in sourcing external funding for the paying for the cost of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- (ii) Hugh Anderson represents Godolphin/ NHG not Darley/ NHG. NOTE: Hugh Anderson will not be able to attend meetings of the Group, due to additional work commitments, until further notice.

4. Housing Need Presentation: Niki Hollingworth, Housing Strategy and Development Manager for West Suffolk gave a Presentation on Housing Need in Forest Heath and Newmarket. (See attached hand-out.)

Amongst other things, Ms Hollingworth's presentation looked at housing 'need' across West Suffolk; provided facts and figures for FHDC as a whole; and discussed Newmarket's housing profile. Rather surprisingly, the housing figures revealed that, of the 7,000 homes to be built in FHDC during 2011-2031, the projected social housing need is 300 houses per annum or 5,935 out of the total 7,000 during this 20 year period.

Niki Hollingworth offered to provide further information, if required. One specific item requested and to be provided is in relation to commuting-out migration figures i.e. the percentage of people wishing to live in Newmarket but commute to Cambridge/BSE to work.

- 5. Neighbourhood Planning:** Step by step guide (Robert Feakes): To be discussed, as appropriate, at the 17 March meeting.
- 6. Neighbourhood Planning – Grants** available and costs (Marie Smith): To be discussed as necessary at the 17 March meeting.
- 7. Open Spaces:** Neil Anthony gave a brief update on his work in relation to Open Space and Recreation Requirements and/or Sporting Needs. Neil has been working with Marie Smith and Warren Smyth at Anglia Leisure Services (ALS) over the last 6 to 8 weeks to identify sites for specific sports in Newmarket.

Scaltback School site, owned by SCC, has been identified as a hub for, amongst other sports, Rugby, Athletics and Badminton.

Neil also reported that he has been working predominately on the sport of Football. Cricket is also part of his remit.

(Previous work with regard to Newmarket Town Councillors views on Open Space within their Wards is to be forwarded to Marie Smith.)

- 8. Update of other Delivery Groups:** The Chair reported that each group had met at least once. The Steering Group would be meeting on Wednesday, 1 March but as yet had not been asked to endorse a Neighbourhood Plan.
- 9. AOB:** It was decided that the site visits should be conducted as part of the next meeting and therefore, as everyone was in agreement, the meeting was extended to allow Marie to present maps to identify, constraints, brownfield and greenfield sites in Newmarket. These sites potentially included St Felix School, George Lambton Playing Fields, Hatchfield Farm, Pinewood Stud and Brickfields Stud.

NOTE

- (i) The current population of FHDC is 59,700.
- (ii) There is a requirement in the period of 2011-2031 to provide 7,000 houses across FHDC. 1330 of the 7,000 will have already been built by 2014.
- (iii) To date FHDC have consistently achieved a 30% affordable housing quota.
- (iv) The proposed submission housing figure for Newmarket is 1200, a reduction from the original 1700 in the previous quashed Core Strategy.
- (v) Newmarket is highly constrained and has been in terms of Policy since 1957.
- (vi) Steven Wood re-iterated that evidence based material needs to be provided if Newmarket is to have a lower housing allocation, as has been sought by, in particular, the Racing Industry, which is the largest economic contributor in the FHDC.

10. Date of next meeting: Thursday, 20th March 2014 at 10.00am. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF START TIME TO 10.00AM

10.00am: Site visits, followed by a discussion of those sites. Those who wish to view the sites should be at the Grosvenor Yard Car Park near the Memorial Hall at 10:00am for transport (to be arranged by Marie).

11.00-11.30am, subject to return from site visits: Council Chamber, Newmarket Town Council Offices for second part of meeting.

11.30am: Presentation on Neighbourhood Plans by Anne Barnes PILCM, Clerk to Cringleford Parish Council, Suffolk.

NOTE: Cringleford Parish Council have produced a Neighbourhood Plan, one of the first in the country.

The Chair thanked Members for attending.