

Newmarket Vision Steering Group
Minutes of the meeting held on
4 February, 2016 at 2pm at
Newmarket Town Council
Sir Ernest Cassel Meeting Room



Present:

Sarah Stamp, Chair
 Bryn Griffiths
 Howard Lay
 Jill Korwin
 William Gittus

Warwick Hirst
 Robin Millar
 Noel Byrne
 Christine Rush

Apologies:

James Finch

Simon Phelan

1. Welcome and Apologies

SS welcomed Jill Korwin, a Corporate Director from FHDC to the group. Apologies were received from JF and SP. SP has handed over to JK.

2. Minutes of the last meeting, 13 January, 2016

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as correct.

3. Updates from

Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan (NNP) – WH stated

- the three wards of Newmarket is the agreed area, has been through consultation with no disagreements.
- Have consulted on the seven aims and objectives.
- Issues: Money 'in house' £8K from SCC but have to match fund.
- Budget needs to be set for Neighbourhood Plan. There is precept meeting on 22 February which does not include NNP.
- NNP would like the district council to advise what is expected of them in monetary terms.
- Timeline meeting with Marie Smith has been cancelled unfortunately, but NNP needs to agree with single issue review.

Action: JK to advise timeline.

Single Issue Review Timeline information added after the meeting:

Approximate Timetable	Reg. No.	Stage in Single Issue Review
July - September 2012	18	Initial Issues and Options Consultation
August - October 2015	18	Further consultation on Issues and Options
April - June 2016	18	Consultation on Preferred Options
September - October 2016	19	SIR Proposed Submission document consultation
December 2016	22	Submission of SIR document to the Secretary of State
February 2017	24	Examination in Public into 'soundness' of SIR
June 2017	25	Inspector's Report into 'soundness' of the SIR
August 2017	26	Adoption of SIR document by the council and incorporation into the Development Plan for the district.

**The timetable above is based on the February 2016 Local Development Scheme*

Equine Hub Focus Group – WG explained that the group is not meeting until 22 February. However things are progressing.

- Jockey Club Estates has a planning application for a trotting ring to relieve capacity pressure elsewhere. This will mean horse crossings will be affected.
- Providing a third Gallop later this year.
- National Stud are being cautious and have closed their doors temporarily after an infectious disease was found, however WG stated that there should not be any long term effects and has been unfortunately blown out of proportion.

NV Education Delivery Group – HL circulated a draft action plan to the meeting and briefly gave a review covering the 10 objectives of the delivery group.

HL asked the meeting if anyone had the capacity to liaise with those businesses who would want to get involved with the schools. The work would naturally be under the direction of HL two days per week.

ACTION: RM, JK and HL to meet to discuss development and Sixth forms capacity and funding.

ACTION: JK and Judith Mobbs, SCC Assistant Director to discuss 'brokerage' scheme.

ACTION: SS to write to Newmarket Journal saying how disappointed the steering group were to read a small good news article in the paper on page nine rather than hitting the front page, as the story deserved. The group agreed behind every grade is a person and should be celebrated.

The Newmarket Messenger newspaper was mentioned for future local news, as this free paper is delivered to all in the neighbourhood.

NV Town Centre/Retail, local Economy and Tourism Delivery Group (TRET) – NB stated that his group had met recently and had received a presentation from Amy Starkey on the 350 year celebration of the collaborations between the Race Course and the Town; it is a celebration of everything going on in the town:

- Time capsule
 - Photo book
 - Micro site, currently being soft tested
 - Unveiling of statues in the High Street and
 - Potential visit by Her Majesty the Queen later in the year.
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- NB reported that the East Anglian Railway ticket machine is working. This Friday at 3.30pm is the grand opening of the station since alterations have been made. NB was pleased to report this progress as the station is the window to the town.
 - The TRET delivery group discussed the workshop. Another meeting is required to pull all the success together.
 - John Smithson's detailed management plan was reviewed. The meeting has been held with Anglian Water. The No.1 Drain is being referred to as Newmarket Brook.
 - Cycle Route Project - The meeting about the Cycle Route was very positive BN met with RM, WH and SCC rep.

- High Street Design meeting has been set for February and needs pushing on. Boyd Nicholas chairs the working group.
- Shop Front Policy – was discussed.
- Signage – along the A14 from outwards into Newmarket, five attraction signs are allowed but part of criteria is defined by footfall to the attraction.
- BID – all businesses get a postal vote 3 March. All concluded by 31 March. Announcement 12.01 on 1 April. Business Plan being finalised which will be handed out to some businesses and talk them through. If a positive vote, then Board of Directors will be formed.

ACTION: JK to ask West Suffolk Econ Development to write a press release on low vacancy rate of business property, brand names we have – to endeavour to change the perception of the town.

ACTION: JK to check with Comms re the availability of Barry Peters.

- Quarterly heritage meetings with Rachel Wood from the Tourism Sub Group are discussing heritage awards. Historic England – links sustainable development of landscapes culture, sport and walking. Wait for funding.
- Newmarket Branding – NB advised that Amy Starkey has put forward soft proposals for the branding for the whole of Newmarket to have consistent 'heritage' branding. The Jockey Club have worked on this – the colours have been agreed at the TRET Delivery Group as gold / black / white.
- Graham Abbey Newmarket Chamber of Commerce is looking for support for start-up businesses. Would like an incubation centre for Newmarket. Interested in businesses being able to supply hot desk space and meeting rooms.

NV Traffic/Highways Delivery Group – SS passed apologies on from JF. CAR had recently circulated the notes from the last meeting to the steering group for information. Progress is being made on the issue of signage and JF will provide an update at the next meeting. BG reiterated his offer from the last meeting, that if he should be needed to intervene at any time with any Highways issue, he would be happy to assist.

4. **Priority Action List**

SS reminded all that the action list needs to be updated. Please forward updates to CAR.

5. **Comms, NV Workshop Event**

RM circulated a draft workshop outline that had been drawn up by the Family and Communities Manager.

- Register on arrival
- Collect number
- Sit at appropriate numbered table
- Panels round the room to add thoughts of participants
- Send note to all those who participated
- Media to be invited
- Cup cakes provided by NB to finish.

'Hold the date' had already been sent to all NV groups.

The group agreed that they wanted the participants to leave knowing they have achieved and that their ideas will be taken forward.

ACTION: SS, JK and CAR to meet to draft invite.

6. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Date of Next Meeting

9.30am on 21 March, 2016.

SS stated after the 21 April NV Workshop Event the Steering Group meetings may be less frequent.