



Newmarket Vision Steering Group
21st March, 2016 at 09.30
Newmarket Town Council Offices

Key Notes and Actions

Attendees: Cllr Sarah Stamp (Chair); Cllr Warwick Hirst; Cllr James Finch; William Gittus, Howard Lay, Noel Byrne; Sara Blake, Jill Korwin

Guest: Di Robertshaw (BID)

Apologies: Cllr Robin Millar; Bryn Griffiths, Christine Rush

1. Minutes of meeting 4th February:

Matters arising: TRET group already working on Communications so they are picking up issue re shop vacancy rates.

2. Updates from Delivery Groups

Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan: (Warwick Hirst)

- Area has been agreed: Newmarket County Council boundary - less Exning Cemetery.
- Consultation on aims completed and drawing strategy from that. FHDC Single Issue Review is going out for consultation so any work on housing or land usage will have to tie in with that.
- WH noted that had a lot of support from Forest Heath DC.
- Funding is a current concern – SCC supporting financially.
- Aiming to complete by end of 2017 due to Single Issue Review.

Equine Hub Focus Group: (William Gittus)

- Updated action plan on website.
- Slowly making progress on key worker housing sites.

Education Delivery Group: (Howard Lay) A lot of activity

Activity around supporting pupils with English as second language.

- Work on raising aspirations being planned and links with West Suffolk College. Warren Smyth (Abbeycroft Community Leisure) appointed as Enterprise Co-ordinator.
- Governor network slowly developing.
- Bidding to Raising the Bar fund for Literacy projects.
- Linking up with local press to raise positive profile for Newmarket education.

WG emphasised need for support requests from education sector to business to be coordinated and focussed.

TRET Delivery Group: (Noel Byrne)

- Next meeting Friday.
- Railway ticket machine now working. Green corridor – progressing. Exploring BMX opportunities around the corridor.
- Retailers – BID progressing.
- Tourism – cycle project ongoing.

Due to expansion of business to East of Suffolk, Noel will be standing down from chair of TRET. Sarah Stamp thanked Noel for his work and support over the years for driving the Vision forward; he will be sorely missed.

Traffic / Highways Delivery Group: (James Finch)

- Horse-crossings –paper being developed to formalise proposals. Looking to do a trial run in the Summer holidays with police support.
- Tourism signs – liaising with tourist group; agreeing the businesses that should be on there; (Fiona Unwood); getting final costs to enable businesses to look at contributions. SCC as Highways authority will submit application to Highways England. Will be agreed at Highways meeting on 30th March.

Action: James Finch to update steering group after 30th March with outcome of that meeting

- Car drivers and horse crossing – looking at creating a flyer for distribution to residents and tourism locations.
- Off street/onstreet parking – signage being developed. Aim to be put in before opening of HoHR (September).
- Increased parking charges have been agreed by FHDC including charging (but double time) for Blue Badge holders.

Group suggested an afternoon free parking in Newmarket to encourage visitors over Christmas would be beneficial. Last year application was made too late.

Action: Jill Korwin to raise with Darren Dixon

- Safety review – independent consultancy report produced on Snailwell Road – report to be considered.
- Number of schemes being progressed in conjunction with LEP. James Finch working as part of a group with Suffolk Chamber of Commerce re A14 improvements and prioritisation of those improvements and includes A11 and A142 requirements.

3. BID update: Di Robertshaw was welcomed to group.

- BID now gone to vote – will end on 31/March and declaration at 6pm on 1 April.
- Have been visiting businesses to encourage voting – building on work that has been done in run up to the vote. To date 72 votes submitted from 346 eligible businesses– need about 100 to make BID credible so getting out there to encourage support. Where businesses have not received a form there is a formal process to follow to get documents reissued to ensure the integrity of the vote.
- Newmarket News is doing a piece this week and EADT have run some coverage.

Action: Jill to ask West Suffolk comms to use NMV social media/press releases to raise awareness of vote and encourage vote

4. NV Workshop Event – reviewed plans for event 21st April 2016

- Note this was purely for stakeholders not a public meeting.
- One amendment to brief – Ask tables to list top 3 success of the Newmarket Vision rather than individual delivery group.

Actions: Jill K to speak to West Suffolk Communications Prepare a press release for the event.

Christine to circulate distribution list for invite and numbers and who is attending after Easter

James Finch not available for the event and will arrange for a substitute.

Reminder – ALL to let Richard know of any support needed in terms of posters etc. for the event.

5. Update from meeting with Support Officers: JK updated group on key issues arising from support officers meeting.

- Real opportunity for delivery groups to deliver as relationships established, but a refresh may be needed post BID decision and 21st April event
- Need for Simpler plans and priorities

- Encourage new local people to get involved
- Focus on issues where there is added value by bringing partners together – not about what individual organisations will just do
- Steering group –
 - Real value in the check, challenge, coordinate, celebrate role
 - Important role to be the enabling body to unblock issues
 - Focus on outcomes
 - Communications
 - Strategic view from Steering group; outward focus
 - Celebrate Newmarket's successes.

Some actions are being progressed to make relationships between groups:

- Update list of all group members and circulate
- Schedule support officer meetings to improve co-ordination
- Improve sharing of information between groups – develop simpler high level overview with objectives and current action
- Align meeting dates

6. Any Other Business

Flood Defences was responsibility of Community Planning Group but it has been raised as to where this now sits. Flooding issue is around the drain and that is being picked up through TRET – John Smithson leading on that and links with Jane Birch at SCC, flood defence lead.

Action – Warwick to send issue to JK to send to John Smithson (Complete)

7. Date of Next Meeting and future meetings: agreed frequency of meetings be reduced as bulk of work through individual groups.

21st April – NV Event NTC Main Hall 9.30 am to 12 noon

9th May – 9.30am

9th June – 2.00pm- cancelled

11th July – 9.30am

11th August – 9.30am- cancelled

12 September – 9.30am

10th October - 9.30am- cancelled

14 November 9.30am

5th December 9.30am- cancelled