

**Minutes of the Newmarket Vision
Town Centre / Retail, Local Economy and Tourism Delivery Group
held at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 22 October, 2018 at the Newmarket
Town Council Offices**

Present:

Richard Goss

Christine Rush (Minutes)

Michael Jefferys

Peter Hulbert

Warwick Hirst

Graham Philpot

Sara Beckett

Apologies:

William Gittus, John Smithson, Jon Miles, Megan Pollexfen, Rachel Wood,
Di Robertshaw, Roberta Bennett

1. Minutes of the last meeting 10 September, 2018

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as correct.

2. Green Corridor update – John Smithson

JS was not able to attend the meeting, but sent an update through:

CCTV Update: After consulting with SSC on street lighting - permission has been given to utilise lamp posts as power source and locate cameras. The details of the proposal are with the district CCTV coordinator to get their view. Then follows a discussion with the police. It is likely the proposal could be presented to a public meeting on 6 December.

Smell near entrance: JS has chasing Anglian Water to survey a suspect outfall, however the problem is likely to be more far reaching than this. JS has a meeting with Nick Patton (Jockey Club) in November to get some historic background on any previous works in the past to stop horse litter getting in to the brook.

GP added that smells in Sun Lane and by the Clock Tower had been noted which could be backup of sewage over a decade – it has been reported to Anglian Water.

Graffiti: WS councils have a demonstration of some new techniques and chemicals to tackle this problem in November; it is hoped to test it on one of Orbit Housing's walls along the YBR.

ACTION: GP will contact JS as The BID may be able to offer a discount if it is a company that The BID uses.

Friends Group: The committee had a meeting in October where a treasurer was appointed. It is hoped a bank account will be opened soon. They will be carrying out volunteer days on Saturday, 3 November and Saturday 1 December - 10am start.

3. Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan Update - Michael Jefferys

SB stated the group had been working on all the responses. Need more written responses to use as evidence to the inspector.

Next week FHDC and SCC main consultees will meet for a day to go through agreed policies addressing all concerns and comments. The group thought this was a more efficient way of getting the document updated.

ACTION: GP will send a link to business – SB advised the full document is on the website. Responses to be in by next Tuesday, 30 October.

A leaflet drop to all households to raise awareness of the NNP to satisfy the examiner that a full consultation has been run has been considered.

The group would like the Referendum to be held next year, but may not be convenient with local elections so could be 2020.

4. Policing Newmarket Update - Inspector Mark Shipton

MS not in attendance, so unfortunately no update available.

5. Specific Actions of the sub groups

- **Tourism** – Rachel Wood

SB stated the last meeting was held on 26 September went through priorities. Work with Discover Newmarket and Tourist Info Centres. Promote Newmarket other than racing. Promote for locals what they can do in Newmarket, rather than having to leave Newmarket.

Monthly meetings to go ahead. Next meeting is next Tuesday, 30 October. Tourist Guide: Local Publishing Authorities have been to NTC saying they have publishing rights. Tourism Sub Group produced the last guide, but the publishers have a contract with NTC, but NTC cannot find the contract. Bobby has requested a copy of the contract.

- **Discover Newmarket** – Megan Pollexfen

There was no update available.

- **Town Centre sub group – High Street Design Group:** Boyd Nicholas

ACTION: RG to write to BN asking why we haven't heard about the consultation, as per the timeline submitted in June.

- **Retailers Sub Group** - Di Robertshaw

GP reported there is a meeting this week and the plan is to join The BID and run the retailers as a sub group of The BID.

Footfall is up. Good collection of shops in the High Street.

- **The BID – Graham Philpot**

Presentation - Visitor numbers and results of research to be presented in January.

- **Festival of Fear** 27th October to 31st October – Kings Theatre, 7pm three spooky films will run; Ghost Walks; Overnight Ghost Hunts; Children's Halloween trail; Sky TV with some famous people – pilot of most haunted.
- **Christmas** lights switch on by Ben Haenow, X-Factor winner on evening of Friday 16th November 4pm to 8pm. High street will be closed.
- Stage will be across the top end by Clock Tower looking down the street. H&S etc, all in place. Link to info:
<https://lovenewmarket.co.uk/making-magical-memories/>

- 29 Nov to 2nd Dec Christmas Fair/Market, celebratory chefs, fairground ride. Nutcracker Trail.
- Father Christmas at Palace House Mews etc.

An action packed two months!

GP stated it is the events and market sub group that steers all events. Last year was stated as being the best ever trading.

Christmas customer services workshop – businesses have signed up.

Businesses are getting involved.

Positive feedback.

Shop, eat, stay guide being written next year.

No 'free' car parking available this year.

13 November - Supporting People with Disabilities – Purple Day.

Foot fall 2 million people; over a 1000 people using Wi-Fi GP reported.

Discussion on Wi-Fi company to attend a meeting in 2019.

ACTION: GP to invite, once new dates identified.

- **Local Economy Sub Group** – Jon Miles

JM not in attendance, but happy to address any actions arising.

No actions arising.

6. Any Other Business

RG had a thought as A14 had recently been closed, trucks using the High Street as diversion. What if an event was on and High Street was closed? RG just wondered what the risk would be if both closed. The BID have a license to close High Street and have to have diversion signs to accommodate.

Discussion on zebra crossings etc. the other end of the High Street. Traffic Sub Group looking at this dilemma. Bury Road will have temporary traffic lights over the Christmas celebration events and at Station Hill.

7. Next Meeting Date: Monday, 3rd December, 10am **Bedford Lodge Hotel.**

Fresh meeting dates identified for 2019 at NTC:

- Monday 14 January,
- Monday 4 March, and
- Monday 22 April