

Notes and Actions of the Newmarket Vision Meeting

Wednesday, 13 August, 2014

held at Newmarket Town Council

Attendees:

Cllr Lisa Chambers, Chairman (SCC)
Cllr Warwick Hirst (FHDC)
Cllr Rachel Hood (NTC)
Bryn Griffiths (SCC)

Liz Watts (FHDC)
Richard Baldwin (FHDC)
Christine Rush (FHDC)
Robert Feakes (SCC)

1. Apologies:

Isabelle Barrett (NTC)

2. Notes and Actions from last meeting 30 June, 2014

The notes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting with progress on the following actions noted:

2a. Shop Front Policy

The Shop Front Policy for West Suffolk is in progress. Both policies (FHDC and SEBC) are being amalgamated. **Action:** CAR bring forward to the next agenda.

2a. Parking Strategy

Action: CAR bring forward to the next agenda.

7. Grass Cutting

Action: CAR to arrange a meeting with WH, LC, Guy Smith, Damien Parker and John Smithson. Damien Parker to supply maps.

3. Update from Delivery Groups

- **Town Centre / Retail, Local Economy and Tourism Delivery Group**
WH stated the group last met on 18 July where the leads to the sub groups were meant to share their action plans. Some were received. The Retail Group gave a good verbal brief. WH has requested a written brief. Action is moving forward however on the High Street. Raymond Keeley has submitted a design brief for the High Street. It was thought a survey needed to be done on what services lay beneath the High Street before any work can be considered. There is a meeting of the Retailers Association this afternoon. A written plan will be presented to the next Delivery Group and then the Steering Group.
The Steering Group discussed merits of replicating a race course concept, parking bays and trees. BG advised that there had been a proposal for an avenue of trees in the High Street, and SCC did a survey that showed potential utilities network that could have caused a problem, so the project was abandoned. BG did not want a group paying for a survey when one had already taken place.
Action: BG to send copy of survey to WH.
Action: LW suggested a workshop at the Conference on the retailers' proposed project, in order to get feedback from all of the delivery groups, and ensure all appropriate parties are briefed and involved.

- **Community Planning Delivery Group**

Marie Smith had arranged to meet with RH and IB early to mid September.

- RH raised concerns about funding, a discussion then followed of various approaches that could be made. Approximate cost of Neighbourhood Plan is £17K to £25K.
- BG stated it was important to get the correct governance in place at the start.
- LW stated the project manager/consultant will give advice for a timeline that works with funding.
- Up to a maximum of £8,000 funding can be applied for from DCLG Empowerment of Communities fund.

Action: RF will complete paperwork for RH as Cllr David Hudson will allocate £1,000.

Action: LC agreed to allocate £1,000 from her Locality Budget for the consultant initially.

Action: LW to resend contact details of prospective Project Manager for Neighbourhood Plan – Alex Munro.

Action: RF to send copy of draft application for bid - Empowerment of Communities.

Action: RH to ask IB to forward NTC bank details so that a cheque can be received from SCC.

- **Education Delivery Group**

LC will be reviewing the action plan with Howard Lay and Claire Harvey next week, and then take back to the next delivery group meeting.

LC reported

- that Jo Lang working across Newmarket link governors for school and involving businesses. Pilot Newmarket work. If this is successful, will be rolled out over Suffolk.
- Amy Starkey gave a presentation how to engage primary and secondary schools – family involvement. Amy was full of energy and the presentation was very good and interesting.
- Associate Governors – training attendance poor. There is a need to build a stronger platform and network.
- RB has invited the PTA Network in Newmarket to the September Conference.

- **Transport Delivery Group**

Last met on 2 July and reviewed action plan.

- Major Horse Crossings are on the timetable with funding from Tesco's and Morrison's.
- Meeting with schools with regards to the position of the zebra crossings. Communication will go out to all concerned.
- Discussion on Bus Service, Community Bus service running on Sundays. WH was advised by Graham Newman to come up with a scheme and then it will be reviewed.

Action: LC to follow up with Suzanne.

4. Neighbourhood Plan

Already discussed at item 3 Updates.

5. Branding Update

An update was received from the FHDC Comms Team which included a note that the Tourism Sub-Group had also been looking at branding by way of launching a logo competition. A discussion on the merits of in-house design, competition for design, a commercial company design and next steps took place. LC stated that the Steering Group would sign off the design.

Action: LW to ask the Newmarket Chamber of Commerce to provide details of three local companies in order to ensure that Newmarket companies are given the opportunity to bid for this work.

Action: LW to have further quotations by 8 September meeting or if available sooner will be circulated by email.

6. Action Plan

The action plan was not re-circulated.

Action: CAR to bring forward to the next agenda.

Action: All to populate action plan so that it can be displayed at the Conference. A comments board should also be available beside the display.

7. Conference Update

The draft programme was reviewed and order of business agreed. The Steering Group members all have an active role in the delivery of the day. Marketplace session – invites have gone out to a variety of local organisations with some still to confirm if they would like a stall.

Action: CAR to invite Nick Wingfield Digby.

Action: LW to update the Conference Programme.

Action: LW - A step by step schedule will be provided at the next meeting.

8. St Felix / Scaltback site discussion update - RF

- The Football Club met on 9 July.
- The Club is currently sending children to Dulingham to practice and play football.
- There will be a potential need for a primary school in the future.
- The Football Club is being encouraged to make an offer when the site becomes available.
- SCC will have to look at all bids received for applications for this site.
- Potentially leave space for a primary school and if school not required, could be used for housing.
- Football Club is working towards becoming a charity as charities are open to more funding.
- Quentin Cass in conversation with the Football Club with regards to a business plan.
- Primary School discussion ensued.

Action: LW to speak with Steven Wood re planning, East Cambs housing figures in the Newmarket 'fringe'.

Action: RF to copy Neil Anthony details of Football Club business plans.

9. Studlands Park discussion update

RB introduced the report.

- Working with residents about what they would like and how they feel about resourcing from housing development.
- Evening consultation or community lunch on a Saturday. The members supported a community lunch.

Action: RB will write a Consultation Plan to take forward.

10. Queensbury Lodge

LW shared timeline with group.

11. Any other business

RH feedback on Royal Newmarket was great.

Action: LW to get in touch with Sandra Easom. Hopeful to have things finalised by end of August.

Future Dates:

Time: 8 September, 2.00 pm

Venue: Newmarket Town Council Offices

1 October 9.30 am

6 November 9.30 am

3 December, 2.30 pm*