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NEWMARKET VISION E-NEWS LETTER

FEBRUARY 2017

The Newmarket Vision was established in 2012 and is a partnership of public, private and voluntary sector groups working to improve the town centre, tourism and educational opportunities, traffic and community planning. The Newmarket Vision Steering Group coordinates the work of four groups:

- Town centre, retail, local economy and tourism delivery group;
- Traffic and highways delivery group;
- Education delivery group
- Equine Hub group

Information and minutes of meetings: www.forest-heath.gov.uk/newmarketvision

Parking

Parking continues to be of prime concern in the Town. In the short term, Newmarket Town Council hopes to help by employing a police community support officer (PSCO), if budget permits. Work is underway on transition from the criminal parking enforcement powers presently used by the police to civil parking enforcement (CPE), which will be held by Forest Heath District Council.

Newmarket Town Guide

The official Newmarket Town Guide was a really enjoyable project, but an eye opener as to the amount of work needed to do a good job. The guide was funded from advertising, sourced by the publisher who received tremendous support from businesses in Newmarket. The group provided the editorial and photographs for inclusion. The guide has a two year life span which gives time to investigate how to improve the next one, perhaps involving other interested parties such as the Business Improvement District.



A separate handy map has also been produced. If you would like hard copies please collect some from the Town Council Offices at the Memorial Hall in the High Street. The guide can be viewed from the link below – please share this:

High Street enhancements

The much anticipated High Street enhancement work has also progressed in recent months and Ubiety Landscape and Design have been announced as the successful tenderers for the Newmarket High Street Design Project. The perception of the High Street was discussed with Ubiety designer Ramon Keeley, at a meeting in early February which also looked at best practice and case studies from elsewhere. Ramon is now going back to the drawing board, to bring us interpreted designs.

Royal visit

A huge crowd turned out to greet Her Majesty The Queen when she officially opened the National Heritage Centre for Horseracing and Sporting Art in November.

This was preceded by the unveiling of the Mare and Foal statue on Birdcage Walk.

The project started in 1992 when Forest Heath District Council (with the support of English Heritage) bought Palace House by compulsory purchase due to its dilapidated condition and inappropriate restoration works.

The site has been transformed into an international attraction worth many return visits. The café and shop are open free for community use and the admission price gives year long access

<https://www.palacehousenewmarket.co.uk/>



Newmarket Town Centre



Welcome to Graham Philpot who has been appointed as manager of Newmarket Business Improvement District (BID) . Graham has identified his first tasks as helping businesses reduce costs by negotiating waste management, recycling, insurance and advertising contracts .

The BID have employed two rangers to work in the town centre guiding visitors, helping shoppers and supporting town events. An example of this was the two day Winter Wonderland festivities in December which attracted thousands of people to the Town.

Plans are afoot for even bigger and better events in 2017 with the BID and Town Council working together on the Carnival, Music Festival (and preparing for Christmas 2017!).

Yellow Brick Road and Newmarket Brook

A management plan will be used to progress improvements along the Yellow Brick Road and Newmarket Brook, and a newly appointed ranger will spend one day a week on detailing and dealing with issues identified in the area.

Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan

Newmarket Town Council is developing a Neighbourhood Plan for Newmarket. Progress is being made, and following consultation, six of the ten basic objectives have now been drafted. www.newmarket.gov.uk/nmkt-neighbourhood-plan/draft-objectives/

There is still a great deal of background work to do and further consultations will be undertaken in the very near future. The Neighbourhood Plan needs to conform with the Forest Heath Local Plan which has reached the final submission version stage and is out to consultation until 13 March 2017.

Items for publications in the next issue should be sent to christine.rush@westsuffolk.gov.uk