

**Minutes of the Newmarket Vision
Town Centre / Retail, Local Economy and Tourism Delivery Group
held at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 15 January, 2018 at the Newmarket
Town Council Offices**

Present:

Richard Goss

Christine Rush (Minutes)

Peter Hulbert

Julie Eden

Warwick Hirst

Michael Jefferys

John Smithson

Roberta Bennett

Inspector Mark Shipton

Ed Vince representing The BID

Apologies:

Di Robertshaw, Chris Garibaldi, William Gittus, Jill Jackson, Rachel Wood and Sara Beckett

1. Minutes of the last Meeting dated 4 December, 2017

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as correct.

2. Green Corridor update – John Smithson

Lighting – JS is still trying to identify the SCC officer who is responsible for the George Lambton Playing Fields. Three lights need repair and there are no numbers on the posts.

Land ownership – triangular piece of land behind the laundry. An independent solicitor is looking into the process of FHDC taking ownership and then trees can be sorted.

Litter Picking – There was a mess over Christmas period, which has now been dealt with. Installation of the bins are imminent.

Benches – still looking into best bench to choose.

Entrance – The iron work will take up to three days to install which will also involve the temporary closure of the footpath. An application to SCC is required for the closure. Diversion route would be through to Rayes Lane, via the horse walk, but JS doesn't see any way around this. JS will put notices up, but could be 2-3 months. Ideally before April.

Friends of YBR – have met on Saturday and JS happy to report the brambles have all gone!

3. Policing Newmarket Update - Inspector Mark Shipton

- MS mentioned car theft around the Studland's Park, particularly the garaged area. MS advised that there has been a couple of meetings on basic security advice, however, if someone wants to steal/break in, they will find a way.
- Rise in theft of ATMs mainly Co-Op – working with businesses to ensure more secure. Ultimately it is up to businesses to secure their ATMs.
- Couple of successful drug arrests.
- Night time economy over Christmas no major concerns.
- PCSO – A discussion took place regarding the willingness of NTC to fund a Newmarket PCSO and the cost constraints of Suffolk Constabulary advertising for PCSOs and providing training. PCSOs receive a five week training programme and then a further couple of weeks training on the ground.
- RB asked if there were any way round helping the town, i.e. by providing car parking enforcement. This led to further discussions and the potential merit of NTC giving their unspent budget to pay for the training of a PCSO.
- It was concluded that lobbying the Steering Group that NTC can pay for the training of a PCSO and then could recruit was a good idea. Lee Jenkins is the

contact. Could help to solve the community issues. Chief Constables can give powers to deal with low level issues, for instance, the race course can deal with traffic for their events. Legislation would need looking into, can illegal parking be covered by rangers.

ACTION: Insp will take a look to see if there is anything RG can take to next Mondays Steering Group meeting which may help. RG to take suggestion forward to Steering Group.

- There followed a debate whether car parks are full or not and should there be more parking available.

It was noted that there was no response from Matt Hancock MP with regards to a meeting/or attending one of the NV TRET meetings.

B/F from last months minutes ACTION: RG and RH to contact Matt Hancock.

4. **Specific Actions of the sub groups**

Town Centre Sub Group

- **High Street Project Working Group brief update** – Boyd Nicolas
With BN absence from the meeting, RG reiterated BN to hold a public consultation in March.

Retailers Sub Group

Unfortunately, WH and JE were the only two members that turned up to the recent Retailers meeting. JE will double check if PH is still on the distribution list. No apologies were received. The Retailers meet every quarter. There is some amalgamation between the BID and Retailers. PH reported Lloyds Pharmacy and Thingmebobs are leaving the High Street. A discussion on housing took place and the group concluded that a development of local housing would assist footfall in the town. JE stated that 'diversity' is the key for an interesting, successful town.

The BID update - Graham Philpot

EV was welcomed to the group and represented GP and The BID.

- Prep in hand for the launch of the Wi-Fi.
- Future events – over Christmas and in town - pooling of resources for better events.
- Recent promoted, organised trails within Newmarket were found to be good for the town as comments received said,
'they had forgotten what the town was like.'

Local Economy Sub Group – Jon Miles

No update received.

Tourism Sub Group - Rachel Wood

No update received.

5. **Any Other Business**

Newmarket Vision Conference – Will there be another conference organized?

ACTION: RG to take to the Steering Group.

6. **Next Meeting Date:** Monday, 5 March, Sir Ernest Cassell Room, NTC

Further 2018 dates circulated since the meeting:

Monday, 16 April

Monday, 4 June.