

**Minutes of the Newmarket Vision  
Town Centre / Retail, Local Economy and Tourism Delivery Group  
held at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 2 September, 2019 at Newmarket Town  
Council, Sir Ernest Cassell Meeting Room**

**Present:**

Richard Goss	Jon Miles
Christine Rush (Minutes)	Michael Jefferys
Rachel Hood	Graham Philpot
Insp. Mark Shipton	Megan Pollexfen (joined at 11.15am)
Rachel Darvill	Tracey Harding (joined at 11.15am)
Peter Hulbert	

**Apologies:**

William Gittus, Will Wright, Boyd Nicholas, Warwick Hirst, Roberta Bennett, Sandra Easom, Di Robertshaw, Chris Burton and Sara Beckett

**1. Minutes of the last meeting 29 July, 2019**

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as correct.

**2. Green Corridor (Yellow Brick Road) - Simon Collin**

- RG wrote to SC for an update, but disappointedly he has not responded nor in attendance.
- Friends of Yellow Brick Road have not met for a long time MJ reported.

**ACTION:** JM will have a chat with SC for a written update or attend the next meeting.

**3. Newmarket Vision Conference 24 September, 2019 – John Miles**

JM explained the format will be different than last time:

- World Café style.
- Opportunity to explain to interested parties and stakeholders the activities of each NV Delivery Group.
- People can come in and choose who they speak to.
- WSC Comms organizing under Jill Korwin guidance.
- Invites have been sent out.
- Officers will be in attendance to field questions and take notes.

JM listed tables who will be joining in on the day:

- TRET
- Transport
- Education
- Community Planning
- Equine Hub
- Newmarket BID
- Newmarket Retailers Association
- Anglian Water Smarter Drop
- Discover Newmarket
- Yellow Brick Road
- High Street Design
- Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan
- Newmarket Leisure Centre
- Local Plan

- Newmarket Chamber of Commerce
- PCSO
- Newmarket Festival
- Newmarket Academy
- Skate Park
- Memorial Hall
- Godolphin Beacon Project
- Sharing Parenting

**ACTION:** JM to ask Sally Easton / Jill Korwin to advise RD more detail as she was unclear what was actually expected of her.

MJ asked what was the expected outcome of this event? JM stated all notes will be collated for the steering group to review and evaluate and disseminate to each Delivery Group.

Princes Foundation surveyed Newmarket  
Newmarket Vision emerged with Steering Group  
Delivery Groups set up

- TRET (Town Centre / Retail, Local Economy and Tourism)
- Community Planning
- Education
- Transport.

MJ and RH have not been asked to do anything for the conference. GP happy to support where possible.

#### **4. Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan Update** Sara Beckett, Michael Jefferys - Boyd Nicholas

BN sent an update through:

- The Plan is now under Examination, an examiner has been appointed (Andrew Ashcroft) and is considering the representations made to the Submission Plan and if it meets the basic conditions. He has visited the town and has sent NTC a clarification note asking for a response to a series of questions on the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan by 5<sup>th</sup> September. (**ACTION:** BN would welcome feedback on progress with this).

Andrew Ashcroft's initial comments have been very positive stating:

*'The Plan is very well-presented. The quality of the photographs and maps is very good. It results in a very readable and interesting document. The distinction between the policies and the supporting text, and between the policies and the Community Actions is very clear. The Plan provides a distinctive vision for the neighbourhood area.'*

Once he has received the response from NTC he will confirm if a hearing is necessary and if not draft his report. Once completed he will issue a fact check report for WS and NTC to correct any factual inaccuracies. If found 'sound' the NP will then go out to referendum either with or without modifications. It is envisaged the referendum will take place around November / December 2019.

- **Forest Heath Single Issue Review (SIR) and Site Allocations Local Plan (SALP)**

Inspectors report received on 13 August and supportive of the plan finding it 'sound' with proposed modifications. The inspectors' reports and the local plan documents, incorporating the inspectors' main modifications, are due to be considered by full Council meeting on 19 September. The modified SIR and SALP will be recommended for the council for adoption. Upon adoption they will form the Forest Heath area of West Suffolk Council Local Plan and the development plan for development management purposes.

## **5. Policing Newmarket Update** – Insp. Mark Shipton

Full issue report given to Town Council.

- Travellers on site being moved from Newmarket Leisure Centre this morning.
- It is up to land owners
  - to monitor their own land,
  - to take the G&Ts to court - not the Police.
  - Land owners have been advised to invest in barriers to prevent wrongful occupation.
- Secure gates – padlock gets cut off. Unless you can prove it wasn't open, there is nothing you can do.
- Suffolk hasn't got a designated site for Travellers use.
- RG was saddened to read the latest reports in the press.
- ASB: Group of youth's incident in the Guineas. Shopping Centre and Local Authority meetings being held.
- 'Pulse patrols' seen around town.
- S34 displacement order to curtail youth problems in certain areas only covers 48 hrs.
- Limited resource to deal with heavy workload.
- Any juveniles have to go through a careful process which takes time to work through.
- RH stated that the police have been very positive, proactive and responsive and supports them whole heartedly. Police put in a huge effort.
- MJ doesn't believe the press are negative necessarily rather they are highlighting the Police are underfunded and don't have enough staff.
- GP supports too. Shops didn't think they were getting responses, but now they do know and are much happier.
- Insp. MS stated budget is set by Central Government.
- There is no provision for Mental Health. A lot of Police time is caught up with this.
- Thankful for council funding PCSO an arm of the police walking in and around the town.
- Volume of crime - the police have to work within the budget they are allocated.
- 'Ride along scheme': join patrol officers to get an insight into the work officers do and who they speak to, a unique opportunity for anyone over 16.

RD stated she and Insp. MS are regularly meeting re positive reporting. Town Council's website, social media feeds. RD has a large patch to cover and can't be in two places at once.

SCC will mark the parking bay lines in, kerb flashes and loading bay will be in the painting programme. No dates given by SCC. RD stated this will help her with the enforcement work.

RD is holding bi-weekly table of information with fliers etc. on the Market and in the Guineas. This is advertised on Twitter. Lots of different questions received from all ages. RD really impressed how well it is going down.

## 6. Sub Groups Update:

- **Tourism Sub Group** – Rachel Wood  
Unfortunately RW was not in attendance. However JM said a meeting was held recently. Now collating community events to feed through to Discover, the BID, the Apex etc. to promote them.

**ACTION:** JM to check with RW that all is prepared for the NV Conference.

- **Discover Newmarket** - Megan Pollexfen and Tracey Harding
  - **ACTION:** JM to supply CAR with Tracey's contact details for mins. RG Welcomed Tracy Harding, the new Manager of Discover Newmarket. MP gave an update;
    - Peak of tourism season.
    - Visitor numbers promising.
    - Exhibitions to attend.
    - Group Travel and Leis show.
    - Palace House awards and

TH has come from Visit Ely and so is very familiar with Newmarket. TH specialises in events, and is very excited about the post, meeting people and working for Discover Newmarket.

RG gave his thanks to Megan for all her work in Newmarket, attendance and updates to this group and wished Megan well for the future.

- **Town Centre Sub Group:**
  - **High Street Project Working Group** – Boyd Nicholas  
BN sent an update through:

Progress has been slow since last update. Correspondence with SCC Highways regarding progressing design work for the High Street / Market Traffic Regulation Order. Aim to promote the idea of removing the barriers and having uniform abutting stalls with backs to form a barrier against the High Street.

**ACTION:** RG will check with BN that the October deadline will still be met. As per the timeline given last year. If not, why not? What can we do to change that?

- **BID / Newmarket Retailers Association** – Graham Philpot and Di Robertshaw

In absence of DR, GP advised the Retailers Association organised a Dance School for young people and held holiday clubs – they were very well attended.

### **BID:**

- GP listed a few changes of businesses in town. Some closing, but four others coming in. There is investment coming in. Newmarket is way below national average on empty shops.
- Popup shops Uma around Christmas period.
- Promote BID and Discover Newmarket via Digital signage. Rented by the BID.
- Figures: 4.7pct down from 5.2pct

- Newmarket has the best occupancy rate in Suffolk.
- MJ would like to see the footfall figures.

**ACTION:** JM to ask Clare Harding to circulate the footfall figures to the group.

- 2 ½ / 3 weeks GP will be leaving his post as BID Manager. Thank you for all your support. DR will be holding the fort until a new Manager is in post.

JG thanked GP for his work in the town and attendance at TRET meetings and wished him all the best.

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

**Work Space:** Flexible day space on offer at Hyperion House by Tesco's. Trial run. How many freelancers will use the space and Wi-Fi. WSC will help with promotion, furniture.

WSC engaging with Agents and Landlords discussing problems etc.

Any new business coming in, a WSC officer goes to see how they can support them, along with BID.

## 7. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

## 8. Future 2019 Meeting Dates

Sir Ernest Cassell, NTC 10am to 12noon on Monday, 14 October.

**Future dates** – TBC

**ACTION:** RG to send some future dates to CAR.