



Equine Hub Focus Group – Notes  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020  
8am, Jockey Club Rooms, Newmarket

1. Attendees

William Gittus  
John Morrey  
Cllr Rachel Hood  
Aimee Hockley-Righton  
Jill Korwin

2. Apologies

Steven Parissien  
Dawn Goodfellow  
Alison Huxley

3. Actions from the last meeting (21.08.2019)

Noted most complete/superseded given the time that has passed.

Neighbourhood plan has been approved.

New BID manager (Paul Brown) and Chair (John Morrey).

4. Project Newmarket

WAG outlined purpose – need to understand what good development is – for Industry and for town.

Paul Roberts from Turnberry consultancy is supporting Industry with the conversations and in developing a long term (50 year) vision. 2 key objectives:

- Develop a plan for how the town could “grow” considering growth from an economic perspective and balancing the need for housing growth and HRI growth;
- How does the Newmarket Horseman’s Group need to evolve to meet the opportunities arising from above?

Confirmed the link to the West Suffolk Local Plan – Issues and Options consultation to take place Summer 2020 with aim for the new plan to be in place in 2022.

Paul is already consulting with key individuals and will be presenting local thoughts in March.



## 5. Action Plan

Reviewed and updated. Agreed key focus:

Priority:

- The Newmarket Offer
- Equine Infrastructure
- Employment in Industry
- Science, Research and Innovation

Supporting:

- Mental Health Support
- Local/Supporting Infrastructure
- Royal Newmarket

World Heritage Site – **Action:** JK to speak to SP for update; speak to Paul Roberts.

**Update from Steven:**

*I have been speaking to the senior Historic England officer responsible for this scheme. But am afraid the news is not encouraging.*

*Firstly, the application process would cost at least £400k. And there is no guarantee that the town would even progress to the second round of evaluation.*

*Secondly, if we did secure WH status then we would be required to fund a senior WH manager at a reasonable annual salary.*

*Lastly, the DCMS is due to meet in June to discuss whether it will invite any applications from the UK at all. Given that we have a disproportionately large number of WH sites on this country - and given the context of Brexit - I gather that UNESCO may not ask for any. If they do want UK applicants, it is highly unlikely that the application process would last until 2025 or beyond.*

*That said, HE thought that the previous study of the benefits of WH status was very sound and agreed with the likely PR benefits. I would have thought, though, that the sheer cost and the uncertainty rule it out for the time being.*

Skills – **Action:** JK to update Paul Roberts on need for a skills plan as part of Project Newmarket.

Stable Waste – Oliver Ingwall King to meet with JM and WAG to discuss opportunity now technology has developed.

Transport – **Action:** Cllr Hood to set up meeting with Suffolk CC; **Action:** WAG to arrange event to share transport modelling.

## 6. Next Meeting

Paul Roberts and Amy to attend the next meeting to present – WAG to advise Laura re potential dates.

