

Notes and Actions of the Newmarket Vision Meeting

Wednesday, 2 April, 2014 9.30 am

held at Newmarket Town Council

Attendees:

Cllr Lisa Chambers, Chairman (SCC)	Liz Watts (FHDC)
Cllr Warwick Hirst (FHDC)	Bryn Griffiths (SCC)
Cllr Rachel Hood (NTC)	Christine Rush (FHDC) Minutes

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Isabelle Barrett, Newmarket Town Council, Robert Feakes, Suffolk County Council and Richard Baldwin, Forest Heath District Council.

2. Notes and actions from last meeting dated 12 March, 2014

Notes of the last meeting were agreed as correct.

3. Newmarket Chamber of Commerce

- LC was approached by Graham Abbey to request discussions between the Newmarket Vision Steering Group and the Newmarket Chamber of Commerce.
- It was hoped that these events could take place on a quarterly basis and act as a consultative/progress meeting with the business community on the Newmarket Vision work.
- LW has sent invitations to the Chair of each Newmarket Vision Delivery Group to attend a breakfast meeting with Newmarket Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, 29 April venue and time to be agreed.
- The meeting had a discussion regarding the major employers in the town other than the racing industry and resolved to find a way of communicating with those companies. A letter from the Steering Group was discussed with link to FHDC website and an explanation of the structure perhaps to the top 20 businesses in Newmarket. Links to Health and wellbeing of staff; skills gap.

Action: LW and WH to follow up on these proposals.

4. Equine Hub Proposal Update

General update was given by LW. Invitation sent out to a list of local equine stakeholders by LW on behalf of LC, RH and WH to meet at the Jockey Club Rooms on 30 April 2014 at 5.00pm for a Focus Group. This meeting will potentially be facilitated by Alison Huxley and LW. The meeting agreed that the equine hub should be funded and led by the equine industry. A planning meeting for the focus group is scheduled for tomorrow.

Action: RH to follow up with those that as yet have not confirmed attendance and to advise LW contacts of trainers and stud farm owners.

5. Updates from Delivery Groups

Town Centre/Retail, Local Economy and Tourism Delivery Group:

WH stated that the last meeting of this group was on 28 March and will meet again in six weeks time. Minutes produced by S Beckett. There is a lot of interest and the group is working very well. Each sub group is supported by FHDC officer.

Community Planning Delivery Group: RH advised that the group started off with a tour of Newmarket, followed by a clear and precise presentation on Neighbourhood Plans, from Anne Barnes of Cringleford. Lots of work involved to deliver a Neighbourhood Plan which Cringleford Parish Council achieved within two years. Cringleford have produced a brochure which can also be viewed on-line. Marie Smith will keep in touch with Anne Barnes. RH explained it would need resourcing properly – money / staff time / project manager / monthly meetings.

Education Delivery Group: LC stated the next meeting is taking place on 19 May, 2014.

Traffic/Highways Delivery Group: The Traffic/Highways Group are to meet 23 April 2014.

6. Publication of Minutes / Action Notes

CR confirmed all the following items had been loaded on to the FHDC website:

- Steering Group minutes /action notes,
- the Education Delivery Groups Action Plan and
- an updated structure chart.

CR had sent a website link of the Newmarket Vision page on the FHDC website to Kylie at the Newmarket Town Council to add to their website.

7. Traffic Group actions that need moving from this Delivery Group to another

It was agreed that:

4.8 and 4.10 would go to the Town Centre Group.

4.12, 4.13 and 4.15 would be moved to the Community Planning Group.

Action: CR to circulate the 'amended' priorities – showing where the priorities have been agreed to sit in each Delivery Group to the Steering Group.

8. Following Town Centre/Tourism/Local Economy/Retail Meeting Items for discussion:

a. Funding where we need specific work done

Ramon Keeley of the Rutland Hill and Bill Tutte committee has asked if there is any funding. A discussion took place regarding the different pots of money that could be drawn upon. The meeting asked what is it, that the committee wants to achieve? LW suggested that a member from the Steering Group attends one of the committee meetings.

LW received a note from RB (who was unable to attend the meeting), noting that he is able to support funding searches for projects set up by the local community. Further locality money potentially for a community group could be sought.

Action: WH will ask the sub group to write a brief and perhaps Ramon Keeley can present his case to the Delivery Group.

b. Car park signage to guide visitors to them

c. Parking on the High Street

d. Taxis in the High Street

These need to be taken on board by the Traffic / Highways Group.

Action: LW will seek a representative from the Newmarket Chamber of Commerce to join the Traffic / Highways Delivery Group.

- Parking on the High Street is an historical problem.
- Grosvenor's car park should be one way.
- Taxi Rank discussed.

LW advised that Cameron Findlay will be working to deliver a Parking Strategy for Newmarket (focusing on the car parks) and all these issues will be taken into account.

9. Any Other Business

The possibility of 'Royal Newmarket' was discussed. An email from the Newmarket Local History Society had been circulated to some of the Steering Group members proposing Newmarket apply for a 'Royal' title. Discussions apparently have been had at one of the sub groups. RH stated that this had been looked at in the past and would resurrect her notes.

Action: RH will contact Sandra Easom.

10. Agreed communications

Action:

- It was agreed that CR would circulate the notes of this meeting to the Steering Group for agreement to enable posting on the FHDC website before the next meeting of the Steering Group.
- LW to draft – on a bi-monthly basis - a general update on Steering Group and Delivery Groups for all councillors to use in the meetings.

11. Future Dates:

Time: 9.30 to 11.30 am unless otherwise stated*

Venue: Newmarket Town Council Offices

12 May

13 June, *Friday*

~~2 July~~ - amended date -30 June

13 August

8 September, 2.00 pm*

1 October

6 November

3 December, 2.30 pm*