

NOTES OF MEETING

Title of Meeting:	Newmarket Vision Transport Delivery Group
Purpose or Mandate:	A meeting to discuss and progress solutions for transport issues in Newmarket and Newmarket Vision Priorities
Date:	15/10/2014
Place:	Ernest Cassel room, Newmarket Town Council, Newmarket
Times:	10:00 to 12:00
Attendees:	Councillor Lisa Chambers (LC), Cabinet Member Suffolk County council Councillor Graham Newman (GN) Cabinet Member Roads & Transport SCC Councillor Warwick Hirst (WH) FHDC, NTC Councillor David Hudson (DH), Suffolk County Council Councillor Chris Barker, (CB), FHDC Magnus Magnusson (MM) - FHDC officer Suzanne Buck (SB), Suffolk County Council Guy Smith (GS), Suffolk County Council Nick Patton (NP) – Training Grounds Manager, Jockey Club Estates Darren Dixon (DD) – West Suffolk Parking Officer Michael Robinson (MR) – Newmarket & District Chamber of Commerce
Invited Guests	Ian Watson (IW) – West Suffolk, Environmental Health Officer Di Robertshaw (DR) - NED
Apologies	Councillor Peter Hulbert, (PH), NTC Councillor Rona Burt (RB), Forest Heath DC Melvyn Leaman (ML), Local Policing Commander Gemma Charrington, (GC), Newmarket Racecourse

Cllr Lisa Chambers is the Chair of the Newmarket Vision Transport Delivery Group

Ref	Notes	Action
1.	Apologies Received as detailed above.	
2.	Review of actions and notes from previous meeting. Notes of meeting 02/07/2014 agreed - Vision Conference it was agreed that the event was	

	<p>worthwhile. MR commented that there was a lack of information about small businesses in Newmarket and this would be useful for future engagement and work. LC commented that there may be benefit in a different approach for future meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WH confirmed that he had received bus related information from Sally Harper. WH to share information with DH - Update re Rail and the potential for CRP (community rail partnership) at next NVTG meeting as rail meeting hasn't taken place yet. 	WH
3.	<p>Newmarket High St Art Project (NED)</p> <p>Presentation by DR introducing the design concept of the project which is to utilise Newmarket's unique selling point as the home of horse racing to bring a strength of identity to the commercial centre of town, increasing footfall for local businesses and making the landscape of the High St unique.</p> <p>The Project proposes three art installations of horses and riders at different stages of a race, beginning at the Clock Tower at the Eastern End of the High St and finishing adjacent to the Post office at the Western end.</p> <p>Furlong posts would run adjacent to the installations marking the course, possibly presenting an opportunity for commemorative or informative detail.</p> <p>For this installation to be implemented a number of existing parking bays would have to be removed. Although they would like to retain parking for buses and BBH's.</p> <p>The tender for the sculptures will be opened up to international artists.</p> <p>Estimated cost of the project was £2m and this would need to be raised through fundraising. DR reported that West Suffolk had provided services of a project manager to assist with the project.</p> <p>DR reported that there had been positive feedback to the scheme proposals from the Retailers Association.</p> <p>LC commented that the scheme would need to tie in with the Legends of the Turf. DR confirmed that NED had spoken with this group and they were happy to work with NED.</p>	

4.	<p>NED Discussion</p> <p>SB produced a questionnaire for retail establishments regarding deliveries and the usage of parking bays. A copy to be sent to DR for NED's suggestions which would be fed back.. Requested any comments / additional questions to be sent to SB by 22nd October.</p> <p>Proposed STATS survey to check underneath the pavements to make certain that sculptures could be placed at locations without negative impact</p> <p>SB noted that there was a meeting on the 3rd Nov of relevant parties to discuss issues to be considered and timelines.</p>	
5.	<p>Parking Strategy</p> <p>SB referred to parking strategy briefing note and that there were three elements to the strategy that would need to be run in parallel. to fully understand the processes and implement successful solutions, schemes would have to run in parallel</p> <p>GS is looking into the issues surrounding and implementing a residents parking zone. The next stage of consultation is due before Christmas. Timing of consideration of any scheme proposals would need to consider the election period, starting March 23rd ..</p> <p>DD is also looking at provisions of off street parking in the town. To include the parking levels in each car park and identify any capacity issues. The future management of the off-street car parks will be influenced by the outcome of the residents parking and any changes to on-street parking. Any decisions relating to charge rates will be considered in June 2015.</p> <p>SB to examine current on-street parking provision to include deliveries, BBH parking and taxis. A questionnaire for town centre businesses will be undertaken to understand delivery needs and limitations.</p> <p>Questionnaire to be sent round before the end of December in order to gauge the issue. Group agreed that there should be some awareness in the questionnaire with the proposed art instillation.</p> <p>GS suggested that the questionnaire should also incorporate business and employee parking requirements as well as residential in order to inform the decision making process</p> <p>It was also noted that the impact of the Horse Racing Museum could have a significant influence on the parking situation once complete. This will need to be reviewed following the off-street parking surveys.</p> <p>Agreement by the panel that Chris Garibaldi should be invited to add input to the group in the near future especially with</p>	

	<p>concerned with coach parking.</p> <p>Suggestions of the implementation of a Park and Ride scheme in order to relieve parking issues. However it was stated that Park and Ride schemes have not been successful in the county with large subsidies required.</p> <p>DR suggested that the failure of the past Park and Ride scheme was down to the site being in the wrong place and closing too early.</p> <p>LC commented that the use of bus services by commuters in outlying villages was difficult due to poor scheduling, ie not tying up with working house and no integration between systems.</p>	
6.	<p>Newmarket Air Quality Presentation</p> <p>IW presented information relating to air quality in Newmarket, including national targets for emissions.</p> <p>Figures have been taken on an annual basis from 2009 when the Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was declared.</p> <p>The taxi rank stood out as being a problematic area with figures reaching beyond the NO₂ threshold. And the latest survey figures indicate that this is the main area of exceedance in the High St.</p>	
7.	<p>Air Quality Discussion</p> <p>Views were positive regarding the declining concentrations of NO₂ but all agreed more should be done in order to further reduce these numbers.</p> <p>Suggested greater emphasis should be put on taxi drivers by the licensing authority in order to encourage taxi drivers not to idle with more emphasis on education rather than monitoring. GS reported that an education programme to make taxi drivers aware of the impact of leaving their cars idling was proposed by FHDC licencing team.</p> <p>IW added it takes 3 years for the withdrawal of a AQMA with annual values under the 40µg/m₃ threshold. Therefore standards could not afford to slip.</p> <p>The group requested more detail on options being considered for the High St.</p>	IW
8.	<p>20mph</p> <p>Accepted consensus that although high speeds of vehicles, was an issue to the town, especially for horses, it was not a concern in The Avenue as stated in the media. No further action proposed.</p> <p>SB stated that schemes planned for development in the town will slow vehicles down without implementation of a 20mph limit.</p> <p>NP reported 12 near misses on the Fordham Rd/Rayes between horses and motor vehicles. Average speed checks recorded on Fordham Rd at 35mph and 34mph</p>	

10.	<p>AOB</p> <p>NP commented on previous schemes which had beautified roads and avenues and if possible this could be replicated with others in the town.</p> <p>GS commented that the funding stream used for the work in The Avenue was no longer available.</p> <p>It was agreed that improvements to the streetscape should be considered by the Neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>SB asked about town council representation at the SCC rail conference in November. It was agreed that SCC would contact the town council direct on this matter.</p>	
11.	<p>Forward Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parking strategy update – January meeting - Cycle review – January meeting - Rail group update – November meeting - Other Vision Groups – transport related issues. 	
12.	<p>Next Meetings</p> <p>Meetings to be held in the Ernst Cassel room at NTC unless otherwise noted</p> <p>Monday 24th November 10:00 to 12:00</p> <p>Wednesday 20th January 10:00 to 12:00 (NOTE this date has changed)</p> <p>Thursday 5th March 10:00 to 12:00</p> <p>Thursday 23rd April 10:00 to 12:00</p> <p>Thursday 4th June 14:00 to 16:00</p> <p>Tuesday 21st July 10:00 to 12:00</p> <p>Wednesday 2nd September 10:00 to 12:00</p> <p>Wednesday 14th October 10:00 to 12:00</p> <p>Wednesday 25th November 10:00 to 12:00</p> <p>Please make a note of these dates in your diary.</p>	