

**Notes and Actions of the Newmarket Vision
Steering Group Meeting
Monday, 16 March 2015 held at 9.30am
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)

1. Apologies

Richard Baldwin (FHDC)

2. Notes and Actions from last meeting 9 February, 2015

The notes from the last meeting were agreed as correct.

Royal Newmarket Update - discussions have reached ministerial level.

The statues of King Charles II and Queen Elizabeth have been approved by NTC. Exact positioning needs finalising, but thoughts were that they could be placed at either end of the High Street. It is hoped to get these in situ in time to coincide with the Queen's birthday celebrations and the opening of the new museum. LC commented statues undoubtedly will be of interest for tourists and visitors, and we will need to consider a safe place for their location. A discussion followed on planning permission and LW suggested that the project members of the statue group seek advice from Rachael Almond and any health and safety issues in particular in terms of sight lines if positioning on a roundabout for motorists and cyclists (seek advice from Highways). **Action** RH and NTC to action.

B/F Actions:

- LC to write to Nick Froy the possibilities of young people engaging in a project to renovate the skatepark at George Lambton Playing Fields; copy to RH.
- The Skate Park at the George Lambton Playing Fields has been completely updated by West Suffolk as agreed between WH and the Parks Department. No further work is needed and WH reports it looks really good. (Comment received via email following request to agree minutes prior to May, as April meeting had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.)
- BG to circulate Highways FOI response to the group.

3. Action Plan Review

The Action Plan has not changed since the last meeting. WH to supply update after the next TRET meeting and LC to supply update after the Education Delivery Group meet in April.

4. Update from Delivery Groups and Equine Hub Focus Group

Equine Hub Focus Group

- Judith Mobbs, Assistant Director responsible for skills and education and Grant Harris, Chief Executive of the British Racing School attended the meeting held on 25 February.
- Both keen to involve employers going into schools and making arrangements for apprenticeships and work experience.
- Housing for students and stable staff was discussed.
- It is hopeful that Matt Mancini will be able to attend the next meeting 13 May with regards to updating the meeting and the need for a flexible crèche service for stable staff.

- Art Gallery, who are pushing ahead to convert the station masters house in Bury St Edmunds.

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

- The delivery group last met 13 February.
- A subgroup covering the future Ipswich Cambridge railway line has been set up.
- Agreed programme, banners, carnival for July Fest coming in to the High Street.
- Deloitte's study due at the end of March commissioned by FHDC. Action: LW to check exactly when the report will be available.
- Business Improvement District (BID) progressing. Getting people to sign up to scheme.
- Tourism heavily involved in getting people to Newmarket and looking at signage, for those people visiting and getting around once they have arrived. WH stated that the Transport group are working on the latter.
- Meeting with Mark Walsh, Head of Operations on Wednesday 18 March in the morning to discuss litter concerns.
- Meeting on Friday 20 March to update the TRET action plan.

Community Planning Delivery Group – RH reported that John Smithson had been incredibly helpful with his Landscape Management Plan which is assisting moving things on in 4.15 of the action plan. Damian Parker has taken over the Sports Strategy since Neil Anthony's departure and RH will be inviting DP to attend a delivery group meeting to give an update. Quentin Cass has emailed William Gittus regarding the possibility of a 'single public estate' opportunity (for a public sector joint office), but has not seen a reply as yet.

Neighbourhood Plan – RH reported that Isabelle Barratt has not received a response from the consultants asking for a meeting and a timeline to work towards. RH stated that she had recently attended a NP information group at WS House and it was really informative.

Education Delivery Group

LC reported a really good positive meeting was had on 12 March. Sub group – Governors network organising a conference. Pre-school / Primary / Secondary and businesses to be invited. Encourage businesses to be governors. A very positive response from a recent survey. WS College and Academy, working together on a programme known as 'the Zoo' level 2 and 3 courses on animal care, developing project. LC was not sure if vet practices are being involved. Should create great opportunities. RH suggest flag up with Animal Hospital etc. **Action:** LC and Nick Froy.

Suzanne Pearson of Sharing Parenting gave an inspiring presentation about what she is doing in Mildenhall. Primary Heads spoke very highly of her as she has very good techniques with staff and children.

Presentation from Primary Heads was received. 'List of asks' that LC was looking for was not quite ready but they gave a very good presentation on challenges they are dealing with. Just need exactly what they want drawn out from them.

Clarity sought on the schools vision is SCC's next step. LC confirmed that there is certainly an opportunity to improve business links with schools - businesses in the community would welcome that.

Transport Delivery Group

LC was disappointed with comms over Fornham Road junction, particularly since so much consultation had been undertaken. This and other schemes had been considered for months and no concerns raised by the group made up with members from the racing industry, local authority, police elected members, chamber of commerce. However, LC noted that we need to learn from this experience, since there are a number of further schemes in the pipeline.

5. Communications

No feedback received from the February Newsletter, but all agreed it was informative, and supported the 6 month pilot.

6. Neighbourhood Plan

As noted above.

7. Studlands update

RB had circulated a note prior to the meeting:

- £1,700 of Locality Budget has been awarded to the Association to help them launch and 'connect' with residents (newsletters and notice boards).
- SCC and NTC have kindly agreed to place notice boards in the bus stops on the estate for the sole use of the Association.
- The Association will be writing to Persimmon Homes with regards to the untidy and overgrown land off Exning Road and onto Brickfields Avenue.
- The Association will be approaching Laureate Primary School to run a competition to design a logo.
- John Smithson, Parks and Open Spaces Manager at West Suffolk will be invited to the April Meeting.
- The 30mph road circles had been welcomed. However, the Association will be requesting the Town Council to support a 20mph speed restriction on the estate.
- The Association will be holding a 'clean up' day on Saturday 4th April alongside an Easter egg hunt!

RB reported (in writing) that overall things are progressing well with the Association.

WH added that he had attended the meeting and reported the progress of the group was generally positive - 800 people were signed up to Facebook page, a newsletter is being written and as RB mentioned they are to have their own logo.

8. Any other business

- **Date and time of next meeting:** It was agreed by all that the next meeting would be on Friday, 24 April, 2015 at 9.00am.

Cancelled: April meeting had to be cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances.

Dates for 2015: 9.30am unless otherwise stated

Venue: Newmarket Town Council Offices

14 May 2015 Thurs	13 Aug 2015 Thurs	19 Nov 2015 Thurs
24 Jun 2015 Wed	24 Sep 2015 Thurs	9 Dec 2015 Wed ◇2.00-4.00pm◇
16 July 2015 Thurs	15 Oct 2015 Thurs	