



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Services Committee
held on Monday, 5th January 2009 at 7.15 pm at the Memorial Hall, Newmarket

Attendance :

Councillor W Hirst (Chairman)
Councillor J Bailey
Councillor W Burch
Councillor G Cole
Councillor A Drummond
Councillor R Fletcher
Councillor D Hudson
Councillor P Hulbert
Councillor G Jaggard
Councillor C Turner
Councillor J Uney

Also Present: Isabelle Barrett –Town Clerk, Rosemary Foreman –Minute Assistant, Chief Supt P Marshall – Western Area Police Commander, PC Green – Newmarket Police, Mr S Manzaroli – SOS Bus Project, 2 Representatives from Stagecoach, 2 Members of the Press

Minute	Action by
C/09/01/1 <u>APOLOGIES</u> There were no apologies.	
C/09/01/2 <u>DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS & CONSIDER UPDATE OF REGISTER OF INTEREST</u> None noted.	
<i>Following a suggestion from Councillor Hirst, it was agreed that Item 15 on the Agenda should be brought forward to Item 7.</i>	
C/09/01/3 <u>TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3rd NOVEMBER 08</u> Councillor Hirst signed the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on Monday, 3 rd November 2008, as a correct record.	
C/09/01/4 <u>MATTERS ARISING</u> None noted.	
C/09/01/5 <u>AN INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PUT QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS OF NOT MORE THAN 3 MINUTES DURATION RELATING TO ITEMS LISTED IN THE PUBLIC PART OF THE AGENDA ONLY</u> None noted.	

C/09/01/6 TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION RELATED TO THE SOS BUS

Chief Supt Marshall advised that he supported the launch of an SOS Bus in Newmarket and would be chairing the steering group to deliver this project. He asked the Council to support the project in principle and also give financial help.

Mr Manzaroli outlined the work undertaken by the Norwich SOS Bus staff, simple things to help people which made a difference and averted difficult or potentially dangerous situations, taking pressure off the police and other emergency services. A bus had been purchased for Newmarket and needed fitting out with plasma screens, a medical centre, a 'chill-out' and staff areas. The multi-purpose bus was not just for the night-time economy but could be hired out as a community resource, eg for a youth service, education, road shows, etc. The bus would make the environment safer, with an impact on crime, anti-social behaviour, drunkenness etc. Several other towns had SOS buses and the Newmarket bus would be modelled on their best practices. The Norwich bus had received financial support from many sources, including local night clubs, and De Niro's in Newmarket had already expressed their support for such a scheme. Mr Manzaroli asked NTC to support the project, both in principle and financially.

In reply to questions from Councillors, Supt Marshall advised that the introduction of an SOS bus in Norwich had led to improvements and the Police would still be in town to support the SOS bus.

Discussion took place regarding funding for the bus and it was suggested that other agencies should be approached before NTC committed to allocating any funds towards the project. As many attending the night clubs were from outside Newmarket, Councillors felt the night clubs, pubs, FHDC and SCC should be asked to help fund the project, possibly visiting Norwich to observe the work undertaken by the SOS bus staff there.

C/09/01/6.01 Recommendation

That NTC support in principle the launch of an SOS bus in Newmarket.

C/09/01/6.02 Recommendation

That a decision regarding allocating funds towards the launch and maintenance of an SOS bus in Newmarket be deferred until all other possible funding sources had been explored.

Councillor Hirst thanked Chief Supt Marshall and Mr Manzaroli for attending and they left the meeting.

C/09/01/7 UPDATE ON BUS ROUTE 10

The Managing Director of Stagecoach explained that Stagecoach was a private company and needed to make a profit to reinvest in its services. Bus route 10 had been cut as there were insufficient people using it and Stagecoach had tried to fill the gap within their resources.

Councillor Hulbert expressed concern that only one bus went past Newmarket Hospital, making it difficult to keep appointments, a situation which would be exacerbated when the medical centres relocated to the hospital site.

Stagecoach advised that they used their limited resources as well as possible; they were not fully reimbursed for OAPs who travelled free of charge.

Following a complaint by Councillor Burch regarding buses using Fitzroy Street as a short cut, Stagecoach advised that the complainant should obtain details of the registration number of the bus, date and time observed, and inform Stagecoach, who would then be able to deal with the situation.

Councillor Hirst thanked the Stagecoach representatives for attending and they left the meeting.

C/09/01/8 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM NEWMARKET IN BLOOM

Councillors noted that NIB had treated the weeds and were sourcing the plants and compost for the beds along Exning Road. The horticultural contractors hoped to commence planting in early January 09.

C/09/01/9 TO RECEIVE THE 3rd DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2009/10

The Committee discussed and analysed the 3rd draft budget and agreed the following recommendation:

C/09/01/9.01 Recommendation

That the 3rd draft budget for 2009/10 for the Community Services Committee be approved subject to the following amendments:

4995 Transfer £4950 to earmarked Reserves – to be reconsidered

4005 Community Warden – remove £20,000

4214 CleanUp Newmarket Campaign – reduce to £1,000

C/09/01/10 DEBRIEF ON BLESSING OF EXNING ROAD WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Councillor Bailey advised that the Blessing and Dedication had been conducted by Rev Graham Locking on 14th December and Councillors Turner, Hirst, Drummond and herself had attended on behalf of the Council.

C/09/01/11 UPDATE ON NOISE POLLUTION – CANNON LAUNDRY

The Committee noted that the company had dealt with noise sources including the gable end fan and the new garment plant. A new burner for the boiler had been ordered and should be installed in mid January. The complainants were being kept up to date with progress on this matter.

C/09/01/12 PROPOSED SIGNAL CONTROLLED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING IN FRED ARCHER WAY

The Committee received SCC's suggestion that a new signal controlled pedestrian crossing be installed at the junction of The Watercourse and Fred Archer Way and the current crossing outside the Day Centre be relocated to opposite the Bus Station.

One member of the press left the meeting.

After discussion, the following recommendations were agreed:

C/09/01/12.01 Recommendation

That NTC reject SCC's suggestions to install a new signal controlled pedestrian crossing at the junction of the Watercourse and Fred Archer Way and to relocate the current crossing outside the Day Centre to opposite the Bus Station.

C/09/01/12.02 Recommendation

That SCC be asked to install a new signal controlled pedestrian crossing on St Marys Square at its junction with Mill Hill (opposite the Newsagents), thus obviating the necessity of moving the crossing outside the Day Centre.

C/09/01/13 ANNUAL SURFACE CLEARING OF PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

The Committee noted that following their review of public rights of way during 06/07, SCC had included the following path on their cutting schedule for 2 cuts per annum:

From bridge 50m north-east of Willie Snaith Road to Oaks Drive.

C/09/01/14 UPDATE ON EMPTY HOMES ON STUDLANDS PARK

The Committee noted that the majority of landlords would be returning keys to the empty properties on Studlands Park to Persimmon Homes on 5th January. FHDC would be in attendance to offer housing advice to landlords in relation to various private sector housing initiatives and FHDC's strategic housing role.

C/09/01/15 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

The Committee noted the letter from Steve Shaw, Co-ordinator of Local Works, promoting the Sustainable Communities Act, but asked Town Clerk to provide further information at the next meeting.

Town Clerk

C/09/01/16 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM REPORT

The Committee received the SNT report on the effects of the late night economy on residential areas and noted the proposed actions. Councillor Hirst advised that there would be a further report regarding Fitzroy Street, Doris Street and Black Bear Lane. Councillor Fletcher expressed his concern at the suggested solutions and asked for more active policing.

Councillor Bailey suggested that drinking in the street should be banned, as it was in Bury St Edmunds, but PC Green explained it would be difficult to enforce as many of the pubs in Newmarket had outside smoking areas where it would be difficult to ban drinking. PC Green reported that The Avenue was policed at night and it was an SNT priority to address the problems there. He hoped the current road works would make The Avenue lighter and easier to police.

Following a question from Councillor Turner, PC Green advised that there was a CCTV camera on the corner of The Avenue which covered the Orange House, Memorial Hall and part of The Avenue.

Councillor Hirst agreed to take the Committee's concerns to the next SNT meeting.

Cllr Hirst

C/09/01/17 45 FIELD TERRACE ROAD

In view of the current economic situation, the following recommendation was agreed:

C/09/01/17.01 Recommendation

That a decision regarding 45 Field Terrace Road be deferred for six months.

C/09/01/18 HORTICULTURAL CONTRACT

Councillor Hirst advised that the current horticultural contract would expire in March 2010. Possible options would be brought to the next meeting.

Cllr Hirst/Town Clerk

C/09/01/19 DRAFT FIRE ACTION PLAN 2009/10

The Committee received the draft Fire Action Plan 2009/10 and noted its contents.

C/09/01/20 CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the following correspondence:

- 1 SCC – Clock Tower Junction – Schedule of works
- 2 SCC – Temporary ‘No Waiting At any Time’ Restriction – The Avenue
- 3 Mrs J Hayes – Appreciation of new High Street road surface, hanging baskets and Christmas lights. Town Clerk to write to SCC thanking them for the good work done on the High Street road surface.
- 4 Cambs CC – Working Together to Save Rural Bus Services
- 5 FHDC – Letter to Newmarket College re O₂ mobile phone mast
- 6 SCC – Exning Road Cycle Way – work to commence at the beginning of February 09.

Town Clerk

C/09/01/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 2nd February 2009.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC

C/09/01/22 TO CONSIDER WHETHER UNDER SECTION 100A (4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, THE PRESS AND PUBLIC SHOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM THE MEETING FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS OF BUSINESS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY INVOLVE THE LIKELY DISCLOSURE OF EXEMPT INFORMATION AS PRESCRIBED IN PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND INDICATED AGAINST EACH ITEM ***

Following a vote, it was agreed that the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business.

C/09/01/22.01 Resolved

That the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they may involve the likely disclosure of exempt information.

The PC Green and the member of the press left the meeting.

C/09/01/23 *WORKS TO THE PATH AT FIELD TERRACE ROAD ALLOTMENTS**

As further information was required, it was agreed that Councillor Burch should bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

Cllr Burch

C/09/01/24 REPORT FROM THE CEMETERY

Councillor Hirst advised of a situation which had arisen at the Cemetery and the action which was being taken.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed : _____

Date: _____