



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Services Committee
held on Monday, 2nd March 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, Councillor G Edge

Minute	Action by
<p>C/09/03/1 <u>APOLOGIES</u> There were no apologies.</p>	
<p>C/09/03/2 <u>DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS & CONSIDER UPDATE OF REGISTER OF INTEREST</u> None noted.</p>	
<p>C/09/03/3 <u>TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5th JANUARY 09</u> Councillor Hirst signed the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on Monday, 5th January 09, as a correct record.</p>	
<p>C/09/03/4 <u>MATTERS ARISING</u> C/09/01/12.01 – Town Clerk reported that she had forwarded the Committee’s concerns to SCC regarding the location of signal controlled pedestrian crossings and had been advised that they would be taken into consideration.</p> <p>C/09/01/23 - Cllr Burch reported that in accordance with LGA 1908 s26(1) the Town Clerk had authorised Ballard & Turner to carry out the required works to the path at Field Terrace Road Allotments.</p> <p>C/09/01/24 – Councillor Hirst advised that no reply had been received to the information sent to the solicitors.</p>	

C/09/03/5 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

There were no members of the public present.

C/09/03/6 EXNING ROAD CYCLING SCHEME

The Committee noted SCC's plans for the Exning Road cycling scheme. Councillor Hirst advised that work had been due to commence mid-February.

C/09/03/7 REPAIR OF POTHoles AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

The Committee received the quote for the patching of potholes at St Mary's Church and agreed that in accordance with the Local Cemeteries Order 1977, SI 1977/204, art 4(1) the quote of £496 from Moon's Plant Hire should be accepted.

Letter of acceptance mailed

C/09/03/8 TRIMMING OF HEDGE IN MEMORIAL GARDENS

The Committee received the quote for trimming the hedge in the Memorial Gardens and after discussion made the following recommendation:

C/09/03/8.01 Recommendation

That in accordance with the Best Value principle, the Town Clerk should seek further quotes for trimming the hedge in the Memorial Gardens and accept the most suitable following consultation with Councillor Hirst.

Further quotes to be sought then discuss with Cllr Hirst

Councillor Jaggard declared an interest in the following item but remained in the meeting.

C/09/03/9 WORKS TO TREES IN ALL SAINTS CHURCHYARD

The Committee received the quote for works to holly trees in All Saints Churchyard and in accordance with the Local Cemeteries Order 1977, SI 1977/204, art 4(1) voted that the quote of £250 + VAT from SP Landscapes should be accepted.

Letter of acceptance mailed

C/09/03/10 CHEVELEY ROAD ALLOTMENTS

The Committee noted the letter from FHDC Officer Paul Speakman regarding rats at the Cheveley Road allotments and Councillor Hirst advised that rat traps had been set.

He reported that he had visited both the Field Terrace Road and Cheveley Road allotments with the Town Clerk and Town Keeper and, although the Field Terrace Road allotments were very tidy, they found areas at Cheveley Road overgrown with brambles, rubbish, etc. He would be meeting the Secretary of the Allotments Association to discuss responsibilities according to the 2000 Lease Agreement and felt regular meetings would be of benefit to both parties. Town Clerk advised that clearing the brambles etc could release land to provide allotments for some of those on the waiting list.

Councillor Hirst advised that a reply was awaited from FHDC regarding the use of land at Studlands Park for allotments.

C/09/03/11 NEWMARKET TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The Committee received the 2008/09 Accounts from the Newmarket Twinning Association and after discussion made the following recommendation:

C/09/03/11.01 Recommendation

That Town Clerk ask Councillor Millar if he wished to continue to represent NTC on the Twinning Association and ask him for a report on their activities and outline plans for their expenditure to 31st January 2010.

Town Clerk

C/09/03/12 TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – HAMILTON ROAD & ROWLEY DRIVE

The Committee noted the following road closure from 5th – 6th March 09 for resurfacing works:

Hamilton Road and Rowley Drive junction, incorporating the horse crossing on Hamilton Road.

C/09/03/13 TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – A142 FORDHAM ROAD & B1063 OLD STATION ROAD AND EXETER ROAD

The Committee noted the following road closures from 11th March 09 to 4th April 09 for safety scheme works at the Clock Tower junction:

A142 Fordham Road between the Clock Tower junction and Fred Archer Way

B1063 Old Station Road between the Clock Tower junction and Moulton Road

Exeter Road at its junction with High Street for 1 night during the works from 16th March 09 to 20th March 09

Closures were required on the following dates:

11th March from 7.00 pm to 12th March at 6.00 am

16th March to 20th March (overnight working from 7.00 pm – 6.00 am)

3rd April from 7.00 pm to 4th April at 6.00 am

C/09/03/14 PROPOSED GARAGE REDEVELOPMENTS IN NEWMARKET

The Committee noted that Kings' Forest Housing were undertaking an assessment of car parking sites at Millbank, Freshfields and Guineas Close which they believed could be suitable for development as affordable housing. Current garage tenants were being contacted to inform them of these inspections. After discussion, the following recommendation was agreed:

C/09/03/14.01 Recommendation

That Town Clerk write to Kings' Forest Housing and ask to be kept informed of any developments and their likely effect on street parking.

Town Clerk

C/09/03/15 UPDATE REGARDING NATS

Councillor Fletcher advised that consultation would commence in July on revised proposals following feedback on NATS' original proposal to stack aircraft over the Newmarket area.

C/09/03/16 REPAIR OF FLINT WALL AT CEMETERY

Town Clerk advised that the cemetery wall was of no historic significance and no grants were available for its repair. The Committee agreed that Councillor Hirst, the Town Clerk and Town Keeper should look at the wall and in accordance with the Local Cemeteries Order 1977, SI 1977/204, art 4(1) obtain quotes for the various options for repair or replacing it with fencing or a brick wall with inlaid flint panels, reporting back to the next meeting.

Cllr Hirst/ Town Clerk/ Town Keeper

C/09/03/17 UPDATE ON WORKS CARRIED OUT IN THE AVENUE

Councillor Hirst advised that most of the new trees had been planted and the road was currently being resurfaced.

C/09/03/18 UPDATE ON NOISE COMPLAINTS RE CANNON LAUNDRY

Councillor Hirst reported that a replacement boiler had been installed and local residents were no longer being disturbed by noise from the site.

C/09/03/18.01 Recommendation

That Town Clerk write to FHDC Technical Officer Paul Speakman and thank him for his help in achieving such a successful outcome following complaints regarding the noise at Cannon Laundry.

Town Clerk

C/09/03/19 DISABILITY FORUM MEETING

Councillor Hulbert advised that he had attended a Disability Forum meeting organised by FHDC on 17th February, where the following issues had been discussed:

- Stagecoach flat floor buses – need not be introduced until 2016 by law but Stagecoach hoped to have them in service in three years
- Disabled toilets – work was due to commence at the end of February
- FHDC News – Type face to be enlarged to help the partially-sighted. Councillor Jaggard to pursue. Town Clerk to ascertain if similar action was needed for Newmarket and also to investigate why some areas of the town did not receive the Town Crier
- Staff at the Newmarket branch of Waitrose would give help to disabled customers

Cllr Jaggard
Town Clerk

C/09/03/20 REPORT FROM SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

The Committee received a report from the SNT regarding the effects of the late night economy on Fitzroy Street, Doris Street and Black Bear Lane and noted that there would be increased Police patrols in these areas at night/early morning and in the Memorial Gardens in the evening before they closed to target under-age drinking. The public were to be provided with information on the importance of and methods for reporting crime.

Councillors expressed their concern that there was often no Police presence at Town Council meetings and Councillor Turner advised that Inspector Clifton was seeking to address this by September.

C/09/03/21 PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACES ON STUDLANDS PARK

Councillor Cole reported that motorists were driving across and parking on grassed areas at Studlands Park, turning them into wet, muddy areas. He had also received complaints that vehicles were being repaired on the grass as there were no power points in the garage areas – this had led to oil being left on the grass. He further advised that new tenants were parking on grass close to their properties, ignoring parking spaces and driving across the grassed areas.

C/09/03/21.01 Recommendation

That Town Clerk write to SCC and FHDC urging them to urgently review and take appropriate action regarding the grassed areas at Studlands Park. Councillor Cole to meet their representatives on site if necessary.

Town Clerk
Cllr Cole

C/09/03/22 PURCHASE OF GRAFFITI REMOVER

Town Clerk advised that graffiti was increasing and after discussion it was agreed that the Town Clerk should write to FHDC Officer Nigel McCurdy and seek his help regarding the removal of graffiti.

Town Clerk –
done – meeting
took place

C/09/03/23 ADDITIONAL BOLLARDS FOR WILLIE SNAITH ROAD

Councillor Burch advised that further bollards were needed in Willie Snaith Road near King's Court to prevent vehicles parking on the grass verge.

C/09/03/23.01 Recommendation

That Town Clerk write to SCC and ask for further bollards to be erected in Willie Snaith Road near King's Court to prevent vehicles parking on the grass verge.

Town Clerk

C/09/03/24 UPDATE ON CLEANUP CAMPAIGN

Councillor Bailey reported that a very positive meeting had been held with representatives from FHDC and SCC, who had agreed to work in partnership with the CleanUp Newmarket Campaign and look into which authority was responsible for various areas of the High Street and to explore the licensing requirements and conditions for A boards and other furniture placed on the pavements.

FHDC were launching their No Excuse litter campaign and also a voluntary code for businesses to be responsible for their immediate areas.

Inspector Clifton was pleased to support the Campaign and would be sending an Officer experienced in licensing issues to the next Campaign meeting. He was also keen to see any type of anti-social behaviour improved upon. A Weekly News representative was now on the Campaign committee and it was hoped the Newmarket Journal would be represented at the next meeting on 19th March.

Councillor Turner advised that Police Officer Alex Waller had spent a considerable time determining who owned the pavement in the High Street and he hoped further partnerships could be forged with other organisations.

C/09/03/25 CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the following correspondence:

1 Historic Towns Forum – Invitation to become a member. After discussion, the following recommendations were agreed:

C/09/03/25.01 Recommendation

That in accordance with LGA 1972, s143, NTC become a member of the Historic Towns Forum at a cost of £200 pa, and that the membership be reviewed on an annual basis.

Town Clerk

C/09/03/25.02 Recommendation

That Councillor Fletcher represent NTC on the Historic Towns Forum

Town Clerk

2 Cllr Lisa Chambers – Suffolk Summit Action points

3 Hill's (Newmarket) Hire & Supply Ltd – Closing down sale - to cease trading end March 09. Town Clerk to ascertain if Town Keeper needs any equipment and, if so, to contact Hill's.

4 FHDC – Installation of new lighting at the Guineas multi-storey car park and Church Lane car park

5 Mr W Gittus – A14 Traffic Management Scheme

C/09/03/26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Councillor Hirst advised that a joint meeting with the Leisure Services Committee would be held on Monday, 6th April at 6.30 pm to discuss maximising the opportunities for Suffolk as a result of the London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games. This would be followed by a meeting of the Community Services Committee at 7.15 pm.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC

C/09/03/27 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/09/03/27.01 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 meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed : _____

Date: _____