



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Services Committee
held on Tuesday, 5th May 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 G Edge

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, Mr Ian Watson – FHDC, 2 Members of the Press, 4 Members of the Public

Minute	Action by
<p>C/09/05/1 <u>APOLOGIES</u> There were no apologies.</p>	
<p>C/09/05/2 <u>DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS & CONSIDER UPDATE OF REGISTER OF INTEREST</u> None noted.</p>	
<p>C/09/05/3 <u>TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th APRIL 09</u> Councillor Hirst signed the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on Monday, 6th April 09, as a correct record.</p>	
<p>C/09/05/4 <u>MATTERS ARISING</u> The Committee noted that Recommendations C/09/04.5.01 and C/09/04/5.05 had been rejected at the meeting of the Town Council.</p> <p>C/09/04/4.01 – The Committee noted that Councillor Millar would be standing down as NTC representative on the Newmarket Twinning Association at the May Council meeting.</p> <p>C/09/04/4 – Councillor Cole advised that he had received no reply from local County Councillors or SCC regarding the grassed areas at Studlands Park.</p> <p>C/09/04/6.01 – Noted that the FHDC drop-in session would be held on Saturday, 16th May.</p>	

C/09/05/5 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

Rachel Hood, representing Newmarket Historic Action Group, expressed concern at the Council's u-turn regarding the granite balls at the Clock Tower. She had relied on the Council to tell SCC to remove them and felt let down. Her Group asked for NTC's support in asking for a statue to be placed on the roundabout instead of the balls.

Ms Hood was advised that the Community Services Committee's recommendation had been rejected by the full Council, and it was suggested that she send the proposal for a statue to the Town Clerk.

C/09/05/6 MAPS AND SIGNAGE WITHIN NEWMARKET

FHDC Officer Simon Batey advised that he was looking at three signage issues in the town:

- 1 Tourist Information signs – replace current sign with brown signs and add more locations, such as near the Rutland Arms
- 2 Coloured signs at the junction of the High Street/Sun Lane and High Street/Wellington Street – replace and include The Guineas, Swimming Pool etc. SCC would install.
- 3 Map signage displays/boards – install additional boards in more appropriate areas. Additional locations to include the railway station and possibly the new paved café area near the Clock Tower.

It was agreed that Councillors should give any feedback to the Town Clerk by 12th May and Mr Batey would inform her of the outcome.

Councillor Hirst thanked Mr Batey for attending and he left the meeting.

C/09/05/7 AIR QUALITY SURVEY

FHDC Officer Ian Watson advised that the area from the White Hart to the Clock Tower and along Old Station Road to the junction with Rous Road was being monitored for air quality, having been found to contain slightly above maximum levels of nitrogen dioxide. Health effects were low but an action plan was being prepared and further monitoring would take place. A steering group would be set up, who would liaise with Highways, and letters and leaflets had been delivered to all properties in the affected area. A drop-in session had been arranged for 16th May when the public could receive information and ask any questions.

Councillors voiced their concerns that the new seating area at the Clock Tower was within the designated zone and asked if the nitrogen dioxide levels had been monitored during heavy volumes of traffic, such as when the A14 was closed.

Mr Watson agreed that the solution was not simple, but they were working with the Highways Department and consultants would be asked to suggest ways for improvement.

A representative from NTC would be invited to join the steering group and the Committee asked that Mr Watson give a further report to the September meeting of the Community Services Committee.

Councillor Hirst thanked Mr Watson for attending and he and the members of the public left the meeting.

C/09/05/8 NEWMARKET ALLOTMENTS

The Committee noted the letter from FHDC Technical Officer Paul Speakman regarding rodent baiting and control and Councillor Hirst advised that the Allotment Association were taking the matter seriously.

FHDC were looking at the implications of handing over land at Studlands for allotments and were seeking a water supply.

C/09/05/9 STREET NAMES WITHIN NEWMARKET

The Committee noted information received from Alison Hayes regarding suggestions for street names in Newmarket, a copy of which had been sent to FHDC. As Ms Hayes had received no reply, Councillor Jaggard agreed to follow this up.

C/09/05/9.01 Recommendation

That Town Clerk write to FHDC expressing their support for Alison Hayes' suggestions for street names in Newmarket.

C/09/05/10 FUNDRAISER WALK

The Committee noted the request for a fundraiser walk by an adult disabled group in the War Memorial Gardens in July and after discussion made the following recommendation:

C/09/05/10.01 Recommendation

That NTC agree to the request for a fundraiser walk for adults with disabilities to be held in the War Memorial Gardens in July, the organisers to be advised not to hold it during the Barclay Bi-Centenary Celebrations.

C/09/05/11 PROPOSED TWINNING OF KECSKEMET CITY WITH NEWMARKET

The Committee received the proposal from the Mayor of Kecskemet City, Hungary, for twinning with Newmarket, together with his invitation to attend the World Pairs Driving Championship from 19th – 23rd August 2009.

The local government of Kecskemet wished to enlarge horsemanship traditions and develop present horse activities related to the English thoroughbreds industry, building up gallop training and racecourse facilities and reconstructing a historical equestrian barrack building complex to establish an exhibition and sales centre. Other towns invited to join the twinning group included Iffezheim and Chantilly.

Councillor Bailey reported that she had met the Mayor's representative last year and advised that they would receive no financial support from Newmarket. It would appear, however, that European funds could be available to benefit all in the twinning group. Hungary were currently big buyers of bloodstock and were keen to develop the whole equestrian area – breeding, racing, etc - and be associated with other racing centres.

Councillors Turner and Burch had previously met representatives from Kecskemet and understood that at that time they had few horse-racing facilities.

After further discussion the following recommendation was made:

C/09/05/11.01 Recommendation

That subject to an acceptable itinerary being prepared, Councillor Bailey accepts the invitation to the World Pairs Championship at Kecskemet from 19th – 23rd August 2009. The costs of accommodation and hospitality would be met by the local government of Kecskemet City.

C/09/05/12 ENHANCED FOOTWAY SURFACING WORK IN THE AVENUE

The Committee noted that enhanced footway surfacing works would be carried out in The Avenue from 5th May for approximately 3 weeks.

C/09/05/13 NEWMARKET BUS STATION

The Committee noted SCC's proposal to develop an area of land currently leased to Centenary Investments to provide bus parking bays at The Guineas. The bays could then be used by visiting buses on a day-to-day basis and also by coach parties travelling to Newmarket on a social basis. Each bay would have the benefit of a dedicated bus shelter and 'real time screens' to improve the efficiency of service to customers. Construction works and future maintenance would be undertaken at SCC expense. FHDC Community Services Committee had recommended that approval be given in principle to the proposed scheme.

C/09/05/14 UPDATE ON CLEANUP NEWMARKET CAMPAIGN

Councillor Bailey advised that the sub-committee would be in The Guineas on 16th May to promote the CleanUp Campaign and publicise the Litter Pick on 30th May. A survey was being carried out with FHDC/SCC regarding the legality and positioning of A-Boards etc and it was hoped a legal way forward would be found.

C/09/05/15 CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the following correspondence:

- 1 Drs M J and V Kirton – Clock Tower junction
- 2 FHDC – Presentation and discussion on Fuel Poverty 11th May 09

C/09/05/16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 1st June 09 at 7.15 pm.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC

C/09/05/17 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/09/05/17.01 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 8.30 pm.

Signed : _____

Date: _____