



Newmarket

TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Community Services Committee
held on Monday, 7th September 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 M Jefferys
Councillor P Hulbert
Councillor G Jaggard
Councillor J Uney

Also Present: Isabelle Barrett –Town Clerk, Joanne Rogers – FHDC Town Centre Manager, 2 Members of the Public, 1 Member of the Press

Minute	Action by
<p>C/09/09/1 <u>APOLOGIES</u> There were no apologies.</p>	
<p>C/09/09/2 <u>DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS & CONSIDER UPDATE OF REGISTER OF INTEREST</u> Councillors Hirst and Hulbert declared an interest in item 7 on the Agenda.</p>	
<p>C/09/09/3 <u>TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th JULY 09</u> Councillor Hirst signed the minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on Monday, 6th July 09, as a correct record.</p>	
<p>C/09/09/4 <u>MATTERS ARISING</u> C/09/07/15.01 – Councillor Hirst advised that the Ely Town Centre Manager had asked to meet with him and Kay Dawson rather than attend a Community Services meeting.</p>	
<p><i>Following a suggestion by Councillor Hirst, item 6 on the Agenda was brought forward.</i></p>	
<p>C/09/09/5 <u>REPORT REGARDING VISIT TO THE ELY MARKET</u> Councillor Hirst advised that he had visited Ely Market on 20th August, together with Tracey Harding (ECDC) and Kay Dawson (NTC). The Ely market had a superb location and a long and successful history, having its present format for over 40 years. A general market was held on Thursdays and a craft market on Saturdays, with foreign markets and farmers markets on a fortnightly basis. The market was very busy and regular promotions were held to draw attention to them, with competitions, music events and dancing for children as examples. Two to six enquiries from new traders were received each week, which were rigorously vetted and then put on a waiting list.</p>	

Joanne Rogers, Town Centre Manager for Lakenheath, Brandon, Mildenhall and Newmarket, advised that she had previously managed other markets, including Ely. Newmarket now had only a few core traders; it was poorly presented, being off the main street and held on a car park. Some traders only stayed two weeks as they said it was the wrong clientele for them. It was important to improve the area to attract more shoppers.

Councillor Bailey advised that the Feasibility Study for the pedestrianisation of Wellington Street and improvements to the market square was now complete but implementation was held up by finance. FHDC were looking at funding possibilities.

Councillor Burch suggested a facelift to The Guineas might attract more shoppers and Ms Rogers advised that most of the vacant shops in Newmarket were in The Guineas.

Councillor Edge suggested that a 'use it or lose it' approach could be adopted and Ms Rogers agreed that this could form the basis of a campaign to promote the market. She would prepare an action plan to bring footfall into the town centre and keep it there longer – promote it with traders and local residents and educate people as to what was there, working with retailers and action groups, NTC, Newmarket Community Partnership, voluntary groups, schools, etc.

Councillor Hirst thanked Ms Rogers for attending and she left the meeting.

C/09/09/6 STUDLANDS PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Committee noted the proposal that NTC agree in principle to manage the Studlands Park Community Garden and noted that the project had the support of Lisa Collins (Newmarket College), Caroline Cowie (Forest Heath Volunteer Centre) and other community groups who wished to become involved. Applications for funding for the project would be submitted to various funders, such as Grass Roots Fund, Suffolk Foundation and High Sheriffs Award. The organisers would also look to engage with the local community and businesses, looking for contributions and expertise. Groups from Newmarket College, Hanover House and volunteers from the Airbases had offered to clear the area.

The garden would be used by school children, residents and groups such as the Newmarket Resource Centre.

Mrs Collins from the Studlands Association outlined their plans to transform the area near the BMX park and allotments, turning it into recreational land – small allotments for various groups, a sensory garden, wild garden, green area for general recreation and activities, seating areas for project work, play area for all age groups, youth facilities, etc. The project would be managed by Lisa Collins and Caroline Cowie, consulting with other organisations involved.

Caroline Cowie advised that she had fundraising experience and would get youth groups involved in separate parts of the project. She would help to get the project set up and running, then the Studlands group would take over.

After discussion, the following recommendation was agreed:

C/09/09/6.01 Recommendation

That NTC support in principle the proposal that FHDC transfer land at Studlands Park to NTC for development as a community garden, provided there was no cost to NTC.

Town Clerk

The 2 members of the public left the meeting.

C/09/09/7 UPDATE ON PROPOSED ALLOTMENTS FOR STUDLANDS PARK

The Committee noted that the allotments would be licensed to the Allotments Society and understood that funds from the sale of allotments at Crockfords Road could be available to fund the preparation of the area at Studlands for new allotments.

Town Clerk was currently in the process of seeking quotes for fencing, laying water pipes, clearing the land, marking plots, etc. A consultation letter had prepared to be sent to all Studlands Park residents asking for their agreement to the allotments and whether they wished to have a plot.

Discussion took place regarding who should be the tenants of the new allotments and it was agreed that this subject matter would be addressed again once replies from the consultation had been received.

C/09/09/7.01 Recommendation

That the Town Clerk write to FHDC to request the release of the asset of the allotment land at Studlands.

Town Clerk

C/09/09/8 UPDATE ON PROPOSED SEVERALS TRAINERS CAR PARK

The Committee noted that, following the meeting between the Jockey Club and NTC on 6th August, the Jockey Club were proceeding with the proposal to create a trainers' and owners' car park (13m x 34m) on the corner of the Severals adjacent to the Bury Road crossing. Councillor Fletcher advised that the Jockey Club were drafting a lease for the land, preparing costs, planning application, etc, and it was hoped that, if approved, work could be completed before the winter. There would be no costs to NTC except their own legal costs.

Following a question from Councillor Edge, Councillor Hirst advised that discussions were taking place between the Jockey Club and SCC regarding yellow lines and horse crossings.

C/09/09/9 MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCES IN NEWMARKET

The Committee discussed the proposal from FHDC that NTC take over the running of the public conveniences adjacent to the Memorial Hall and in The Guineas Centre. While Councillors were keen to take on more responsibility, they expressed concern at the costs which would be involved.

C/09/09/9.01 Recommendation

That Town Clerk write to FHDC and express an interest in their proposal that NTC take over responsibility for the public conveniences adjacent to the Memorial Hall and in The Guineas Centre and request detailed costs of expenditure from the last two financial years and for the next two years & any capital expenditure envisaged in the future.

Town Clerk

C/09/09/10 REPORT RELATED TO CLOCK TOWER ROUNDABOUT MEETING WITH ROD SORE

Report awaited – Town Clerk to chase.

Town Clerk

C/09/09/11 REPORT FROM NEWMARKET IN BLOOM

Councillor Hirst advised that winter plants had been specified and a successful car boot sale held recently. The result of judging by Anglia in Bloom was awaited. Entries in the NIB competition had been very competitive and a prize-giving evening was being held at 7pm on 2nd October, when Councillor Bailey would be presenting the prizes.

C/09/09/12 REPORT FROM SNT MEETING

The Committee received the results of the resident consultation regarding traffic in Scaltback estate and noted that speeding was a problem.

C/09/09/13 UPDATED SIGNAGE FOR NEWMARKET

Deferred to next meeting due to holidays.

Put on Oct CS Agenda

C/09/09/14 UPDATE ON CLEANUP CAMPAIGN

Councillor Bailey advised that the next meeting with FHDC/SCC was on 16th September, when information should be available regarding the legal situation on A-Boards etc. There would be another Litter Pick on Saturday, 24th October, and she asked all Councillors for their help on the day.

All

C/09/09/15 INSTALLATION OF WATER PIPE AND TAP AT CEMETERY

The Committee received the quote for the installation of a water pipe and tap at the PDK section of the Cemetery and after discussion made the following recommendation:

C/09/09/16.01 Recommendation

That the Town Clerk obtain 2 further quotes for the installation of a water pipe and tap at the PDK section of the Cemetery and be authorised to accept the most suitable one.

Town Clerk

C/09/09/16 TOWN KEEPER'S REPORT

Town Clerk advised that sunken graves were being reinstated, the hedge had been cut, posts and signs installed to hold watering cans, 10 additional graves pre-dug, paths weed sprayed, all benches stained, 3 new bins installed to replace old ones, the Workshop and Chapel doors and two of the three gates repainted and holly trees raised.

The Kawasaki Mule had been delivered and proved useful in the work on the flint wall; the chalk mountain had been removed by Moons.

Town Keeper had also washed bus shelters and removed the Carnival signs and posters from around the town.

Town Clerk had requested that the Cemetery Chapel be cleaned on a monthly basis and asked the Committee to consider uplighting the Chapel and Workshop and erecting 3 hanging baskets on the Chapel during the summer. She had also met with the Town Keeper, Councillor Hirst and Councillor Sadler (representing the Royal British Legion) and proposed that a jet wash machine be purchased at a cost of £700-£1000 to clean the War Memorial and pavement. It was possible that the Friends of the RBL could contribute 50% of the cost and the machine could also be used to clean the Cooper Memorial and other paved areas.

C/09/09/15.01 Resolved

That the Cemetery Chapel be up-lighted at a cost of £460.85 and three hanging baskets installed during the summer at a cost of £120.

Advised
Cemetery
Custodian

C/09/09/15.02 Resolved

That NTC provide 50% (up to £500) towards the cost of a jet wash machine.

Advised
Cemetery
Custodian

C/09/09/17 CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee noted the following correspondence:

- 1 Suffolk Police – Changes to Police Command Team within Forest Heath
- 2 RAFA – Thanks for use of Severals for Car Boot Sale
- 3 MARPA – Summer 2009 Newsletter
- 4 Carillion WSP – A14 Major Resurfacing Scheme
- 5 FHDC – Draft Consultation on Gambling Act. To be put on Agenda for next meeting. **All Councillors requested to view this on the FHDC website.**
- 6 FHDC – Application for an advisory disabled parking bay – 89 Freshfields Newmarket. The Committee voiced no objections.

All

C/09/09/18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday, 5th October 09 at 7.15 pm.

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC

C/09/09/19 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/09/09/20.01 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.

C/09/09/20 *UPDATE ON HORTICULTURAL CONTRACT**

The Committee noted that FHDC's proposal for the horticultural contract would be submitted to their Community Services Committee Meeting on 8th September.

C/09/09/21 *UPDATE ON CEMETERY**

Councillor Hirst advised that the situation had now been resolved.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed : _____

Date: _____