



# Newmarket

## TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Leisure Services Committee**  
**held on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 7.15 pm at the Memorial Hall, Newmarket**

**Attendance :**

Councillor M Jefferys, Chairman  
Councillor W Burch  
Councillor C Brighty (from 7.20 pm)  
Councillor G Cole  
Councillor W Hirst  
Councillor D Hudson  
Councillor P Hulbert  
Councillor J Richer  
Councillor J Uney  
Councillor C Turner, Town Mayor  
Councillor J Bailey, Deputy Town Mayor

Also Present: Isabelle Barrett –Town Clerk, Erika Jensen – Assistant to the Town Clerk,  
Rosemary Foreman – Minute Assistant

Minute	Action by
L/09/01/1 <b><u>APOLOGIES</u></b> Apologies were received from Councillors K Bovill and R Fletcher.	
L/09/01/2 <b><u>DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS &amp; CONSIDER UPDATE OF REGISTER OF INTEREST</u></b> None noted.	
L/09/01/3 <b><u>TO CONFIRM THE MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2008</u></b> Councillor Jefferys signed the minutes of the Leisure Services Committee meeting held on Monday, 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2008, as a correct record.	
L/09/01/4 <b><u>MATTERS ARISING</u></b> None noted.	
L/09/01/5 <b><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></b> No members of the public were present.	
L/09/01/6 <b><u>REPORT FROM SPORT FOR THE SEVERALS SUB-COMMITTEE</u></b> Councillor Hirst reported that the planning application had been approved and documents prepared to send out to tender. The Jockey Club were supportive and the deadline for opening was November 09. A further meeting of the Sub-Committee would be held on 16 <sup>th</sup> January 09.	

L/09/01/7

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PLAY EQUIPMENT IN THE MEMORIAL GARDENS**

The Committee received the report from the Assistant to the Town Clerk regarding funding for play equipment in the Memorial Gardens. A had prepared a plan of equipment currently in the Gardens and advised that, to secure funding, any new equipment must be DDA compliant and should include items for people of all ages and abilities. The problems were highlighted associated with providing a sandpit, wooden or metal equipment, and it was recommended that any new equipment should be made of hard plastic, which was safer and required less maintenance. The estimated costs to replace the equipment with new, safe, sustainable and maintainable equipment, including new fencing, a new water feature and removal of the old equipment would be at least £200,000.

Following questions from Councillors, the Assistant advised that the Town Keeper was trained in maintenance and safety inspections, graffiti was a minor problem but had to be dealt with and the sandpit needed raking each day to remove any hazards.

Councillor Jefferys advised that he and the Assistant intended to visit local First Schools to find out what the children would like in the Memorial Gardens.

**Cllr Jefferys/  
Assistant to the  
Town Clerk**

L/09/01/8

**PLAY FACILITIES WITHIN NEWMARKET**

Councillor Richer advised that he and Councillor Hirst had met FHDC officers Ian Shipp and Nick Wyatt on 9<sup>th</sup> December to discuss whether funding would be available towards Newmarket's play areas. He outlined current play provision and grants but advised that, whereas any request for increased provision at Studlands would be viewed positively as they were on FHDC land, the Memorial Gardens play equipment was the property of NTC, who were therefore responsible for raising funds necessary for its repair and replacement. FHDC would, however, consider a capital grant application towards these costs. Councillor Richer asked that NTC write to FHDC and encourage them to apply for a Playfinder grant, which could provide new, all-inclusive equipment for Studlands.

Discussion also took place regarding provision of play equipment in other areas, such as All Saints Ward.

Councillor Turner congratulated Councillor Richer on his work with FHDC.

The following recommendations were agreed:

**L/09/01/8.01 Recommendation**

**That NTC work with FHDC to prepare a Playfinder Fund grant application for Studlands Park.**

**L/09/01/8.02 Recommendation**

**That a Sub-Committee be formed to plan and seek funding for the repair/replacement/upgrading of equipment in the Memorial Gardens and that the Sub-Committee would comprise of Councillors Richer (Chairman), Brighty and Uney together with Erika Jensen.**

Cllrs Richer,  
Brighty, Uney &  
Assistant to the  
Town Clerk

**L/09/01/9 SMALL GRANT BUDGET GRANT APPLICATIONS JULY – DECEMBER 08**

The Committee considered and discussed the applications received under the Small Grant Budget and made the following recommendations:

**L/09/01/9.01 Recommendation**

**That no grant be made to the Ellesmere Opportunity Group as grants could not be made to groups outside the Newmarket community.**

**L/09/01/9.02 Recommendation**

**That a grant of £150 be made to the Twilight Club towards the cost of their Christmas Dinner.**

**L/09/01/9.03 Recommendation**

**That a grant of £250 be made to the Wacky Snacky Club towards the purchase of a new shed to store outside toys and equipment. (Councillor Brighty abstained from voting on this item)**

**L/09/01/9.04 Recommendation**

**That no grant be made to the Newmarket Cameo Club.**

**L/09/01/9.05 Recommendation**

**That a grant of £250 be made to the Newmarket Town Band towards the cost of new jackets as part of their uniform.**

**L/09/01/9.06 Recommendation**

**That a grant of £150 be made to West Suffolk Blind (Newmarket Branch) towards transport and outings for members who were blind.**

**L/09/01/9.07 Recommendation**

**That no grant be made to the Songs of Praise Group as grants could not be made to groups outside the Newmarket community.**

**L/09/01/9.08 Recommendation**

**That Town Clerk should inform future applicants from outside the Newmarket community that their applications could not be considered.**

**L/09/01/10 TO RECEIVE THE 3<sup>rd</sup> DRAFT BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2009/10**

The Committee received and analysed the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft budget for 2009/10 and after discussion the recommendations were agreed:

**L/09/01/10.01 Recommendation**

**That the following item be removed from the budget:**

**4123 Community/Voluntary Org Grant - £2,000.**

**L/09/01/10.02 Recommendation**

**That the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft budget for the Leisure Services Committee for 2009/10 be noted.**

**L/09/01/11 DEBRIEF ON THE CHRISTMAS MUSIC SHOW EVENT FOR ADULTS**

Town Clerk advised that the show had been a great success and she thanked all Councillors and staff, particularly the Events Manager, who had helped with the event. Feedback received had been fantastic.

**L/09/01/12 DEBRIEF ON CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Town Clerk advised that this had also been well attended and successful and she thanked The Assistant to the Town Clerk, the Events Manager and Councillors Bailey, Turner and Hirst for all their hard work.

Councillor Jefferys thanked all the staff and Councillors involved in both the Christmas Music Show and the Children's Christmas Party.

**L/09/01/13 UPDATE FROM ST GEORGE'S DAY 2009 CELEBRATIONS WORKING GROUP**

Councillor Hudson reported that the Scouts would be parading through the High Street, followed by a presentation at the Memorial Hall.

Town Clerk advised that the Newsletter would be distributed shortly and would include an article regarding the Celebrations with a cut-off slip to reserve tickets.

**L/09/01/14 ART & WRITING COMPETITIONS 2009**

Councillor Jefferys advised that it had been suggested that the theme for 2009 should be 'My World' and the following recommendation was agreed:

**L/09/01/14.01 Recommendation**

**That the theme for the Art and Writing competitions for 2009 should be 'My World'.**

**L/09/01/15**    **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO THE JULY FESTIVAL WEEK**

Assistant to the Town Clerk advised that a request had been received for NTC staff to provide administrative support for the July Festival Week organisers, which would involve attending meetings, preparing agendas and minutes, and mailing documents to Committee Members.

Cllrs took into consideration that the administration of the Festival Week would have to run alongside the organisation of the Carnival and the Battle of the Bands. Members questioned whether the Town Council had enough staff resources to manage the additional administration related to the July Festival Week. After further discussions, Members agreed to the following recommendation:-

**L/09/01/15.01 Recommendation**

**That the organisers of the July Festival Week be advised that NTC staff were unable to provide them with administrative support.**

**L/09/01/16**    **MAXIMISING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUFFOLK FROM LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS & PARALYMPIC GAMES**

Councillors noted the invitation from the Suffolk Project Manager for the London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games to attend a briefing to be held at Stowmarket on 9<sup>th</sup> February from 5pm – 6.30pm to discuss how to maximise the opportunities for Suffolk. After a suggestion from Councillor Jefferys and a discussion by Members, the following recommendation was agreed:

**L/09/01/16.01**

**That the February 09 meeting of the Leisure Services Committee be cancelled and all Committee Members attend the Briefing at Stowmarket on 9<sup>th</sup> February from 5pm – 6.30 pm regarding maximising the opportunities for Suffolk as a result of the London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games. Town Clerk to ascertain how many places were available and whether office staff could also attend.**

All

Town Clerk

**L/09/01/17**    **TOWN KEEPER'S REPORT**

Town Clerk advised that the Town Keeper had maintained the Memorial Gardens to their usual standard.

**L/09/01/18**    **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

The Committee noted the following correspondence:

- 1 Charlotte Jones – provision of sports facilities
- 2 Connor Hazlewood – provision of a skate park

The Committee agreed that Town Clerk should thank the writers, suggest that they discuss these matters with their School Councils, and that the Town Clerk forward the letters to FHDC.

Town Clerk

**L/09/01/19**    **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Minutes of the Leisure Services Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at 7.15 pm.

**L/09/01/20**    **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS & PUBLIC**

With the vote being unanimous, it was

**L/09/01/20.01 RESOLVED**

That, 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 and, in all circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_