

# Minutes of the Newmarket Vision Community Planning Delivery Group

held on Thursday, 27 July at 10.00am  
Newmarket Town Council

## Present for the Walk:

John Smithson  
Christine Rush  
Richard Fletcher  
Sara Beckett

Julian Wilson  
Michael Jefferys  
Robert Feakes  
Rachel Wood

## Present for the Meeting:

Cllr Rachel Hood (Chair)  
Sara Beckett  
Julian Wilson

Christine Rush  
John Smithson

**Apologies** received from William Gittus, Graeme Lockey, Claire Elbrow, Michael Robinson and Andrew Burton.

1. The meeting started off with a 'Walk and Talk' with John Smithson along the 'Yellow Brick Road' at 10am finishing off at the Newmarket Town Council offices with a short meeting with RH, Chair. Some of the members who took part in the walk had to leave due to time constraints and other commitments.
2. **Review of minutes dated 25 June, 2015 and matters arising**  
The minutes were agreed as correct and discussion on whether the meeting was quorate. No terms of reference were agreed for the NV Community Planning Delivery Group meeting so the meeting went ahead.

## Open Spaces and Flood Defence:

- JS gave a brief account of the walk.
- JS reported that Jeff Horner, SCC Flood Defence Team and their consultants are drawing up a plan for Newmarket.
- No need for dredging along most of the brook up until Studlands Estate - as stone / rock based. Where the dredging had been done silt is still apparent and SCC will have to keep control of this element.
- Trees/scrub clogging of waterway discussed.
- To access the brook, slip ways will have to be engineered for work to be completed to maintain the free flow of water.
- RH was impressed with JS's term 'the brook' which sounded much nicer than No. 1 Drain.
- A conversation on the walk revealed that Yellow Brick Road had no definitive reason to be called YBR, but just very well known by locals.
- **Flood Defence:** RF had reported at the last meeting that the draft Surface Water Management Plan is currently with partners for checking. This is still the case. RF will advise the group as soon as the report becomes available via CAR.
- **Outstanding Action:** It was felt that a member of the NV Community Planning Delivery Group should sit on the Newmarket Flood Group. RH nominated Julian Wilson and the meeting unanimously agreed. **Action:** RF to check the governance arrangements and will advise dates of meetings and if JW allowed to join.

- **Outstanding Action:** RH will speak with Rachael Almond, West Suffolk Councils' Planning - Development Service Manager with regards to future planning and to give a picture of the groups aims and activities. GL will brief Steven Wood.
- **Outstanding Action re Management Plan - Draft Press Release:** JS circulated the draft and a discussion took place. **Action:** RW will ask Sandra Easom to check historical detail mentioned in the draft.
- **GoWild and BMX:**  
Both groups have common interests. Cutting and clearing of BMX area all by hand and doing the work themselves. It is now a functional site. The age of the BMX enthusiasts are around 25 to 35. This group may grow. JS stated that GoWild are going to have their 'Apple Day' in September. JS is waiting for feedback from their last meeting which met recently.
- **Outstanding Action re Newmarket Sports Audit:** GL to ask Damien Parker to provide an update. Other than a note circulated after the last meeting:
  - GL supplied a note shortly after the meeting that the position is that the consultants are in the final stages of their audit across the whole of West Suffolk. Their work will then be used to put together a Strategy (for West Suffolk) that will hopefully go before both Councils for Member approval sometime in September.
- **Outstanding update re Town Centre Public Access Buildings Actions:**
  - RF to ask QC for an update.
  - RH to speak with Tim Passmore, Lisa Chambers and Inspector Alistair Torkington, who has replaced Inspector Rose ([Alistair.Torkington@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Alistair.Torkington@suffolk.pnn.police.uk))
  - RW to speak with Library regarding options.
  - RF will talk to SCC Library Officer.

**3. Affordable Housing** – An update will be circulated separately.

**4. Any Other Business**

There was no other business.

**5. Next Meeting of the NV Community Planning Delivery Group:**

The next meeting 27 August is to be cancelled as not seen as necessary and within the holiday period. The next date is 17 September and the NV Community Planning Delivery Group will meet at 10.00 a.m. for about 30 minutes prior to the Newmarket Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The latter is anticipated to meet on the first and third Thursday of each month.