

NORTH WALSHAM TOWN COUNCIL

2 February 2017

MARKETS GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held in the Function Room, Kings Arms Street on 2 February 2017

PRESENT

Chair: Mr N Clarke (Market Manager)
Members: Cllr B Hester
Cllr S Stuckey

Meeting opened at 18:42

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs R Murphy and B West and from Messr N Lee and B Wright.

2. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 1 December 2016**

These were agreed to be a true record of the meeting.

3. **ENTERTAINMENT**

The Market Manager had met Mr Woodhouse (The Music Hut), who had been approached by Radio North Norfolk with regard to an event for buskers in the town. Three or four locations would be used, with a provisional date of Thursday 17 August. This would be promoted by Radio North Norfolk, who would find a sponsor. This should attract visitors to the town on a market day. As proposed by Cllr Hester and seconded by Cllr Stuckey, it was **RESOLVED**

To ask the Market Manager to proceed with arrangements for this event.

Entertainment at the market in Sunday 26 February would be provided by Emma Nuule or Bethan (who would then be on a six-month cruise).

4. **ADVERTISING**

An advert for the markets was being carried by the Town & Country News free paper. This covered all villages in the area. Three Sunday market signs had disappeared and had been replaced.

5. **FUTURE MARKETS**

(a) Pitch Fees: Small (gazebo) stall fees had been reduced from £17 to £8, matching what had been done on Cromer market and following the decision of some stallholders to leave the Thursday market. This had resulted in Tom Humphreys (pet stall) agreeing to return in February, and another had decided not to leave. However, the perfume stall had left regardless as it had not done well. An incentive for stalls wishing to do both Thursday AND Sunday markets was discussed, following an expression of

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interest from Panther Brewery in trying the Thursday Market. As proposed by Cllr Hester and seconded by Cllr Stuckey, it was **RESOLVED**

To offer market stalls a trial period of two weeks on both markets, and then to charge a flat rate of £20 should they decide subsequently to attend both markets in the week of a Sunday market.

It was agreed that Thursday stall rates for larger stalls would remain at 85p/ft.

- (b) Second Sunday market: Stall holders had indicated by 2 to 1 that they were not in favour of a second, mid-month Sunday market based on previous experience with poor shopper attendance. As proposed by Cllr Hester and seconded by Cllr Stuckey, it was **RESOLVED**

That this idea would be discontinued and alternative events would be considered.

- (c) Antique markets update: The main backer had withdrawn, so the planned Easter Monday market was now very unlikely to proceed. The position regarding the proposed August Bank Holiday market was similarly unclear, and the date had tentatively been offered to North Walsham Play for a town centre fund-raising event.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Town Clerk reported that the issue with market bins appeared to have been resolved following a meeting with NNDC and Kier. Two of the three green bins would be replaced with black bins, as most of the market waste was contaminated and unsuitable for recycling bins. The storage area issues would be resolved through some coordinated works to improve the surface.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday 2 March 2017 at 18:45

Meeting closed at 19:15