

LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MARKET SUB COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 10.30 AM

Present: Councillors G Perham (Chair)
 D Bowater
 A Dodwell
 F Kharawala
 T Morris (joined meeting at 1052)
 M Freeman (Vice-Chair)
 P Snelling
 P Carberry

Also in attendance: V Cannon, Head of Cultural and Economic
 Services
 B Holttum, Service Support Officer
 M Jahn, Committee Officer
 D Gibbins, NMTF Liaison Officer/Market Trader

Members of the public: 0
Members of the press 0

72/MK BUDGET REPORT

The sub-committee received a budget report and it was noted that as the country continued to recover from the pandemic the performance of the market also continued to improve.

A question was raised regarding the issue of traders who attended the market only on the run-up to Christmas and did not commit to trading in January and February as well. Whilst members agreed this could be seen as a problem by permanent traders it did enhance the market by offering different and sometimes seasonal products. A suggestion was made whether staggered rents could be introduced for the busier months. The Head of Cultural and Economic Services would look into this and bring back to the next meeting.

RESOLVED to note the report

73/MK APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Berry and Goodchild and Adrian Harrison, Market Manager.

74/MK DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made and no dispensations were requested.

75/MK QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC (3 minutes per person; maximum 15 minutes)

There were no questions from the public.

76/MK MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(a) The Sub-Committee received the draft minutes of the previous meeting, held on 2 December 2021 for consideration.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Markets Sub-Committee meeting held on 2 December 2021 be approved as a correct record and were signed accordingly.

(b) Minute reference 70/MK Farmers Market – the agreed actions to change the name of this market was on-going.

Minute reference 68/MK Market General Update – congratulations and thanks were given to the Leighton-Linslade Market team on their Award from NABMA being awarded the Best Local Council Market 2022.

77/MK MARKET GENERAL UPDATE

The Sub-Committee received a general market update report and appendix for consideration. These included updates on delivery of activity and general updates.

The majority of the themed markets had been delivered as planned. The adverse weather policy had been invoked on two occasions. Sadly, one trader had passed away and another had ceased trading after having their vehicle stolen.

A month-long celebration would take place from May – June to celebrate the 10 year anniversary of the relaunch of the market. This would co-inside with the annual Love Your Local Market campaign. Officers have invited representatives from NABMA to visit the market during this time. The Street Food Heroes and Vegan Market had rebooked after the success of the previous bookings. Information regarding extra markets being held in the High Street had been shared with Central Bedfordshire Council officers to assist in their preparations for drafting a new ETRO anticipated to come into effect in April.

A suggestion was made to enquire if a logo could be added to the Market branding from NABMA which stated the winning of the Best Local Council Award.

The sub-committee were informed that the 'boosting' of information on social media had proved successful and members agreed this would be a great option for future events.

RESOLVED to note the report.

The meeting closed at 11.10 am.

I HEREBY CONFIRM THAT THE FOREGOING IS A CORRECT AND ACCURATE RECORD OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2022.

Chair

19 MAY 2022