

Swaffham Town Council **Market, Events & Tourism Committee**

Minutes of the meeting of the **Market, Events & Tourism Committee** on **Monday, 12th October 2020** at **5.30pm** via virtual media link

Councillors: Mrs J Skinner, Mrs L Beech, Mrs S Matthews, Mr P Darby.

Non-Councillors: Ms H Robinson, Mr F Eagle (Chairman)

Guest: Mr B Armitage

Deputy Town Clerk: Mrs C Smith

Market Superintendent: Mrs R Ostler

Members of the Public: 1

1. **Apologies for absence**

Mr H Eagle
Cllr S Bell
Cllr B Holmes

2. **Declarations of interest for items included on the Agenda**

Mr F Eagle stated that Mr H Eagle is his brother and also Trades on the Market.

3. **Minutes:** Market Events and Tourism Committee 14th September 2020

Agreed

4. **Outstanding actions agreed at previous meetings.**

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that the layout had been adjusted, with the Watchman moving up the aisle to his Licenced Pitch. He was unhappy though because he was unable to have his van directly behind him and would like the Market to return to its pre-Covid layout. Following a discussion, it was agreed to keep the present layout as Covid had not gone away and it was important to keep queues safe.

The meeting was adjourned for the member of the Public to speak. He agreed that the Market cannot return to pre-Covid layout but the one-way system should be reinstated.

5. **Report from the Town Clerk regarding Market issues** *with input from the Market Superintendent:*

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that she had received an email from Craig Fowler of Breckland Council after receiving a complaint and photos showing an apparent lack of social distancing on the Auction. An Officer had attended and observed that the Market was operating safely but that the Auction should make more announcements and barrier sections off. Ms Robinson informed the meeting that they have now implemented both measures. The Deputy Town Clerk said that there had been a several enquiries to trade on the Market and the new cake stall would like to be regulars. The Rotary Club had decided to attend the indoor Friday Market instead of the Saturday Market.

6. **Reports from Market Trader Representatives**

6.1. **Saturday Market and Auction:** Ms Robinson reported that the number of people attending the Auction had dropped off and everything seems okay.

6.2. **Friday market:** There was no report.

Initials.....

- 6.3. Poultry Auction: Mr F Eagle reported that he is doing fairly well though he has lost a third of buyers. People were going from the Poultry Auction to the Market. He was planning to do a Christmas Turkey Auction.

7. Reports on Events

- 7.1. Update on VE day event 6th June 2021: Mr B Armitage updated the meeting on how planning was going. A working group had been formed and there would be publicity in the Swaffham Magazine and social media. The working party meet in two weeks. The Assembly Rooms were booked for a wedding on the 4th, 5th & 6th, but may be available for the 6th. The working group would communicate with the businesses in the town and will try to involve Mildenhall and Lakenheath airbases. They were going to try for a flypast and Dads Army have been booked. The working title for the day is "Victory in Swaffham".

- 7.2. Update on the Christmas Market 6th December: There were 10 stalls confirmed with other enquiries. The White Hart have asked to have their stall outside the pub as they want to hook up to their own electricity, but they have offered a stall fee to support the event. The Town Council will take the final decision if this event will run at the November council meeting, as Government advice is likely to change in different areas.

8. To receive and consider late or urgent matters at the Chairman's discretion.

Cllr Beech informed the meeting that the Garden Competition had been successfully completed with each winner having a 5-minute slot to receive their prize. Local press & Radio Norfolk had been involved.

The stars & stripes themed Market on 31st October also involves the businesses around the Market who will be judged for the best dressed window. A vintage car group are happy to drive around on the Saturday and some Army jeeps would also do a circuit. A group of Cheer Leaders from Dereham have been approached. They would look at the space available.

Mr F Eagle proposed that a Trader would not be charged rent if they had to self-isolate. It was agreed that this recommendation is put to full Council to be considered.

Cllr Les Scott had made an enquiry to a company called JR light and sound regarding the possibility of light building in the town centre. There were no details of plans or costs but it was agreed that this would be explored.

9. Date for next meeting and items for a future agenda: Monday, 16th November 2020, 5.30pm
Agreed

The Meeting closed at 6.26pm.

Chairman.....

Initials.....