

## Swaffham Town Council Market Committee

**Draft Minutes of the Market Committee held on Monday 20 March 2023 at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber**

**Present:**           **Councillors:**    L Beech, S Bell, W Bensley, P Darby, C Houghton, Matthews, J Skinner,

**Non-Councillors:**       F Eagle (Chair), L Martin, D Smith, E Ratcliffe.

**Deputy Clerk:**           H Carrier

**Market Superintendent:** R Ostler

**Public:**                     0

1.    **To receive apologies for absence**  
No apologies had been received.  
P Cross and H Robinson were marked as absent.
  
2.    **To receive declarations of interest for items included on the agenda**  
F Eagle is the older brother of H Eagle.
  
3.    **Public Open Forum no members of the public attended so the meeting was not adjourned.**  
No public present.
  
4.    **To receive and agree the Minutes: Market Committee 16 January 2023**  
D Smith stated that the wording in paragraph 5 was incorrect, and word prefer should be replaced with insist:  
  
**“The Committee discussed the reports and suggested that Traders should lose their Pitch if the situation continued. Traders insist the Market Mix was considered when stalls were booked for Events.”**  
  
All agreed to the change of wording and the minutes were signed.
  
5.    **To receive and consider a report from the Deputy Town Clerk regarding Market issues with input from the Market Superintendent:**

### **Market Superintendent Report**

Alan Roberts has decided to take a break for now.

We have had two casuals so far, namely Katie Milner as Thirty6Scents who has attended twice, and Tonie and Lee Richards as Norfolk Hampers who attended on 11 March & have said they will attend on four more dates. Swaffham Rotary also attended, raising money for earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria.

On 25 March we have Amie Miller starting with her catering stall, Good 2 Go. Barry Milton will also be starting with his pet stall, Mucky Mabel’s Pet Store. Norfolk Chilli Farm start in April and the Swaffham Flexibus and Swaffham Lions Club both want to attend to raise awareness of what they offer.

The Council are increasing rents by 5% from 1 April. All traders have been emailed this information and how it affects them. Casual rates go up from £16 to £17 for the first 10 feet with each foot thereafter staying at £1. Gazebos will be £8.50 to hire. Earl Ratcliffe and his son have watched the training video so can help with the gazebos.

Brand new council website which has the facility to make payments direct.

The Deputy Clerk had received correspondence asking if there would be a Sheep Fayre. All agreed that a Sheep Fayre would be held on Saturday 3 June 2023. The Deputy Clerk and the Market Superintendent will apply for licences and advertise the event.

It was agreed that asparagus season should be advertised. L Martin will inform F Eagle and the Deputy Clerk nearer the time, and this will be advertised via social media and the Town Council website.

It was agreed to hold a Market Stall and Shop Front competition for the Coronation to be judged by the Mayor. The office will produce some posters and leaflets for the Market Superintendent to distribute.

## **6. To receive and consider reports from Market Trader Representatives**

- 6.1. Saturday Market:  
No issues to report
- 6.2. Auction:  
P Cross and H Robinson were absent.
- 6.3. Friday market:  
D Smith reported that the Friday Market was still open, but the venue was very small. The Deputy Clerk read out an update from Icen Partnership on the Assembly Rooms. It is hoped that the Friday market will be able to move back by July.
- 6.4. Poultry auction:  
F Eagle reported that the Poultry Auction still cancelled due to Bird Flu.

## **7. Placement of Multimedia Screen for Coronation**

The Deputy Clerk reported that the desired location would be on the Buttercross facing into the Market. All agreed that this was the best location.

## **8. To receive and consider late or urgent matters at the Chairman's discretion, not included elsewhere on the agenda (prior notice must be given)**

Cllr Bell reported that the sign advertising the market on the Watton Road was overgrown and not very visible. The Deputy Clerk will ask the Works Manager to trim around the area.

## **9. To agree the date of the next meeting for Monday 17 April 2023 to be held in the council chamber at the Town Hall, and agree items for a future agenda**

It was agreed that meetings would need to be more frequent in the spring and summer months. The following dates were agreed:

15 May 2023, 17 July 2023, 18 September 2023 and 20 November 2023

The Meeting closed at 7.15

Chairman.....