



Sodbury Town Council

## **Minutes of a Meeting of the Markets Committee 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020, Remote meeting held via Zoom**

**Committee Members:** Cllrs. Linda Banister, Matt Lewis (Vice Chair), Phil Rumney, Adrian Rush, Linda Rush, Paddy Smith, Andy Williams (Chair)

**Present:** Cllrs. Phil Rumney, Adrian Rush, Linda Rush Andy Williams

Clerk – Cate Davidson

Assistant Clerk – Jackie Murley

W & K N Rowlands representatives x 2 (left at 19:50 hrs)

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**1. Apologies**

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Banister. Cllrs Lewis and Smith absent.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None

**3. Approval of Minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**Resolved** the Minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**4. Matters Arising**

None

**5. Budgets**

Members noted the spend to date. **Resolved** the Markets Committee finances approved.

The Clerk made recommendation that the budget for 2021/2022 remained at £11,700 which was proposed and **Resolved**.

**6. Mop Fair**

- Representatives confirmed that a Fair had taken place in Redditch very recently and the event made COVID safe by:- regular hourly cleaning; sanitiser on all rides and stalls & in addition application of a long lasting sanitiser; ensuring “support bubble” rules followed and rides spaced out. Other fairs were planned for 2020. Notably, Marlborough had cancelled their fair. A copy of the H&S document was handed to the Clerk. Members raised the following points:-
  - It was illegal to incite a gathering of more than 30 people
  - Shoppers and pub goers use same space which would make crowd management very difficult
  - The road is very narrow which made social distancing difficult to manage
  - The matter was an Agenda item for Full Council – 8 Sept 2020

- Cllr Rush said the Fair should go ahead as it was in open air event and predominantly young people. A Risk Assessment was in place and the Showmans Guild are experts in Health & Safety.
- A response was awaited from Public Health and the Police
- Following discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that subject to receipt of a completed SAG report and revised ride layout showing a queuing and one-way system (by 4/9/20) and that they consult with the Showman's Guild, the Fair might go ahead but the matter would be considered further at a Full Council meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> September once further advice from Public Health and Police was available. Recommendation was made that Messrs Porters attend the meeting.

Cllr Rush added, once the Porters had departed the meeting, that during the time of the Foot and Mouth Disease, he had received death threats with regard to the Fair taking place and that a smoke bomb had been placed under the helter skelter.

**7. Christmas Trees and Lights**

The Clerk advised members that she had purchased replacement Christmas lighting as instructed at the last meeting. Unfortunately the electricians who install the festoon lighting have advised the current lighting system is not suitable for use with new lights therefore they were returned and refunded. Members were disappointed by this and LB suggested that there is time to review this in time for December of this year. The Clerk explained that there are other priorities at present and this would not be possible as it would need a lot of investigation work with the electricians.

It was **Resolved** that £3,000 from this years Market Pitchings budget be ringfenced and taken forward to next years budget for Christmas lighting and that the whole of the festoon lighting is improved so that new tree lights can be run off of them.

The Clerk advised that despite requesting it, a quote has not been received from Cotswold Christmas Trees. It was **resolved** that subject to the quote being similar to that of last year then Cotswold Christmas Trees is appointed to complete the tree works in the usual manner.

**8. Items to Report**

**Cllr Williams** reported that the bench in Old Sodbury which had mysteriously appeared in Church Lane had been donated by a villager who had found it in his shed.

**9. Date of next meeting:** To be confirmed

Meeting closed at 20:10

Signed:  ..... Chairman

Dated 28/04/21 .....