Town Hall and Butchers' Hall Report - August 2024

Town Hall

Bookings and enquiries for the current year and beyond are positive, and consistent with expected levels.

We are entering a period of almost constant Town Hall events until the end of the calendar year. In September alone, we have 2 Wedding Receptions, the annual Goosey Quilters event, West Devon cycling and walking public consultation and Junior Life Skills.

In addition to event hire, Tavistock Town Hall remains in weekly use for our regular hirers (Zumba, Clubbercise, Full of Life, Line Dancing and Vocal Harem) and the monthly hire for U3A.

We will be stocking a local beer on tap provided by Stannary Brewery Tavistock. This keeps our bar offering varied (We also have a number of no/low alcohol options in stock) for our bar led events which act as an important income stream. This also gives us an opportunity to support a local business.

Events in The Town Hall are regularly advertised through posters and banners in and around in Town Hall and market complex. Through the Town Council website and Town Hall social media pages. As well as in a number of locally produced publications and an in-house produced brochure.

Butchers Hall

Feedback from traders who have attended our 2024 markets so far is broadly positive. Trader occupation levels for our in-house markets is at a reasonable level and continues to offer a varied range for potential customers.

We have had occasional issues with some traders cancelling on the day of a market. Although we do not lose the income (generated from these pitch bookings) to council from the individual trader, it can sometimes affect the overall aesthetic of the market, traders who have done this on more than one occasion have been politely reminded of their duty of care towards the markets they have requested to attend.

The calendar of bookings for 2024 continues to populated/developed with both in-house and external hirer slots, consistent with the model of activities which we know generate fixed income and complement the surrounding markets and events activities, without disproportionate resource impacts.

August has been a good month in the Butchers Hall with a different event, either in-house or external hirer, taking place every week. Footfall for these events has been decent and as we would expect from this time of year. A similarly packed September schedule is due and I would be optimistic of much the same in terms of footfall.

Butchers Hall event advertisements are regularly placed in the Links publications, The Tavistock Carnival Programme as well as at regular intervals in the Tavistock Times Gazette series. In addition, a banner, posters and flyers are displayed to advertise the Markets in Butchers Hall. Social media platforms are also utilised to keep people informed of events.

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