

AGENDA ITEM 9

NOTES OF THE GOOSE FAIR FEE SETTING MEETING held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **Monday 24th February** at **2.00pm**

PRESENT

- Wayne Southall (Chairman), Tavistock Town Council, General Manager
- Rebecca Rowe, Tavistock Town Council, Works Manager
- Laura Harley, Community and Compliance Officer
- Councillor Paul Ward, Mayor Tavistock Town Council
- Councillor Barry Smith, Tavistock Town Council
- Robert Kefford, Showmen's Guild
- Alan Jenkins, Showmen's Guild

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Councillor Mandy Ewings, Tavistock Town Council
- Monty Howell, Showmen's Guild

2. STAKEHOLDER SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FEEDBACK

The General Manager asked the representatives from the Showmen's Guild for an overview of the last two years trading. It was reported that 2024 had been poor due to the terrible weather throughout the year and although income had not dramatically decreased, expenses had increased.

The Showmen's Guild was still waiting for the tender pack for the lease of the Bedford Car Park from West Devon Borough Council, although no timescale had been provided for this to be sent out. The General Manager stated that there had been a meeting with the Leader of West Devon Borough Council in February to discuss what options were available to secure the long-term future of Tavistock Goose Fair, more specifically in relation to the use of Bedford car-park and the bus station.

The Works Manager reported that in 2024 despite concerns regarding trader occupancy, by the day of the event all stalls had been filled. It was noted a similar pattern was expected for 2025. Concerns were noted regarding the availability of the Alexander Centre Car Park for 2025 of which the Works Manager hoped to have the outcome to be able to report to the Consultative group at the first Operational meeting anticipated to be held in May. It was noted that if the Alexander Centre was not available in 2025, the loss of income would be partially offset by not having to rent portable toilets but it would be deemed detrimental to lose this space as it had become a destination area with seating for food and drink.

3. TTC PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF FEES

In 2023, fees had been increased by 5% and in 2024, fees had been frozen. A 3.5% increase was proposed by Officers for 2025 which represented an additional £1,452.00 of income, aligned with RPI/CPI.

In 2024, the Park and Ride fees for Yelverton were £2.50 per adult and £0.50 per child and at Gulworthy and Whitchurch Down, the fee was £5.00 per car. The Works Manager had previously proposed an increase in Park and Ride fees for 2025 which the Town Council had endorsed during the 2025 -2026 budget setting period. Details of which would be discussed at the first operational meeting.

4. PROPOSAL FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS

The Showmen agreed that an increase of 3.5% for 2025 seemed reasonable and that they would be recommending this increase to The Showmen's Guild week commencing 3rd March 25.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING (OPERATIONAL)

To be confirmed.

The General Manager thanked all members for attending and the meeting closed at 2:33pm.