

## **AGENDA ITEM 9c**

**NOTES OF THE MEETING** of the **TOWN HALL & MARKETS CONSULTATIVE GROUP** held on **TUESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2025** at 5.00pm.

### **PRESENT**

Representing Tavistock Town Council Councillor T Munro (**Vice Chairman**), Councillor B Moody, Councillor J Moody

Representing Market Traders' – Mr R Jones (**Chairman**) and Mrs S King

Representing shops in the Pannier Market surround – Mr D Fisher

Representing users of the Town Hall & Butchers' Hall – Mrs B Ball

Representing Tavistock BID – Mrs J Sanders

Representing the Chamber of Commerce – None Present

Officers – General Manager (GM), Market Reeve & Designated Premises Supervisor (MRDPS), Town Hall & Events Manager (TH&EM)

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received on behalf of Market Representative Mrs S Curtin and Councillor S Hipsey.

### **2. CONFIRMATION OF NOTES FROM 3<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER 2024**

a) The Notes of the Meeting of the Town Hall & Markets Consultative Group held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 were confirmed.

b) Councillor Mrs B Moody raised that her name had been left off of the Meeting Notes as attending from 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2024. There were no other matters arising.

### **3. ANY MATTERS RAISED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PANNIER MARKET TRADERS, PANNIER MARKET SHOPS, AND/OR TOWN HALL/BUTCHERS' HALL USERS.**

The Representatives of Tavistock Pannier Market, Butchers' Hall, and the Pannier Market Perimeter Shops raised the following items;

- It was noted that traders had seen a big impact on footfall following the Market winning the NABMA award.
- A trader representative gave mixed feedback from traders regarding the 4.30pm closing time which had previously been agreed by the

Group. It was explained that this was a reversion back to the original opening hours pre-COVID and that after receiving previous feedback, a compromise approach had been reached around seasonal opening hours, with Officers' preference in the first instance to revert back to 4.30pm closing all year round. The General Manager asked that Tannoy announcements were started daily in relation to the 4.30pm closing time.

- The perimeter shops raised an issue relating to signage for the perimeter shops, specific to the Mondays when the Market is closed, but the shops are open. It was agreed that options around signage would be reviewed by TTC in addition to arrangements being implemented by the perimeter shops as a collective.
- Feedback was given by a number of shops that the perimeter resin needed to be pressure washed as it is looking untidy. This was noted but an explanation around seasonal impact was provided.

#### **4. ANY MATTERS RAISED BY TAVISTOCK BID**

The Representative of Tavistock BID updated attendees on the following items;

- An update was given on the high street noting that a number of shops felt more optimistic at the moment having seen footfall increase, compared to recent years.
- An overview was provided on upcoming town events for 2025 including the EAT Festival, VE Day Celebrations and the Cream Tea Festival. A wider discussion was had specific to how town events could be promoted and the importance of notifying Tavistock BID about events/activities so that they can be uploaded on the Visit Tavistock Events page.
- The BID Manager informed attendees that the Robey Trust had offered to do steam rides on some Mondays to attract additional footfall.

#### **5. ANY MATTERS RAISED BY TAVISTOCK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

There were no matters raised.

#### **6. UPDATES**

##### **a) Pannier Market & Bedford Square;**

The Market Reeve & Designated Premises Supervisor provided an update on;

- The overall performance of the Market, explaining that overall capacity was quite positive, but Wednesdays are remaining a challenge;
- Following the NABMA Award that there had been an upturn in footfall and trader confidence. An update was given on advertising for the Pannier Market, including a rebrand in order to promote the award, and the new opening times;
- The Market Reeve discussed the refurbished recycling area, giving particular thanks to the Works Depot for their efforts on the project.
- An update was given on Bedford Square, including discussion around upcoming events such as the Miss Ivy Street Food event, and the Emergency Services Community Day.

**b) Town Hall and Butchers' Hall;**

The Town Hall & Events Manager updated attendees on the following items;

- An update was given on bookings for the Town Hall, noting that it was important to identify opportunities for growth, including a focus on weddings. Other new events discussed included Music Bingo and a Silent Disco;
- An overview of bookings was given relating to Butchers' Hall for 2025, with trader interest in the venue remaining positive;
- It was explained that for some inhouse events there would be a staff presence on-site throughout operational periods;
- It was agreed that the Butchers' Hall closing time would move in line with the Pannier Market, closing at 4.30pm for 6 months.

**c) Capital Update for works impacting on the Market complex**

- Nothing to report.

**7. OPERATIONAL MATTERS**

**a) Partnership working with Tavistock BID**

- Nothing additional was discussed that hadn't been addressed earlier.

**b) NABMA Awards**

- The General Manager thanked the Markets & Events team for obtaining such a prestigious award, with a plan to put Butchers' Hall forward for a similar award in the future.

## **8. EVENTS**

### **a) Update following the Youth Market and Wedding Fair**

- It was explained that the Youth Market launched in March had received very positive feedback from attendees, and that a repeater event was being planned for this year;
- Feedback from the Wedding Fair exhibitors was encouraging, with the intention to deliver similar, but expand on the event in 2026.

### **b) Update on plans for Easter 2025**

- The Market Reeve informed members that the Pannier Market would be running its Easter Bonnet competition again, on 19<sup>th</sup> April.
- It was explained that the Charter Market would be taking place as usual on Good Friday.

### **c) Update on plans for The Tavistock Country Garden Show**

- The Market Reeve gave an update on Tavistock Country Garden Show, noting that the interior of the Market was fully booked with 6 show gardens for this year's event.

### **d) Update on plans for Summer 2025**

- The Market Reeve noted that discussions were ongoing with traders about a theme for this Summer's activities.

## **11. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD BY THE CHAIRMAN**

No urgent business brought forward by the chairman.

## **12. NEXT MEETING**

The next Meeting of the Town Hall & Markets Consultative Group was scheduled to take place on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2025 (tbc) at 5.00pm.

The Meeting closed at 6.17pm.

Signed .....

Date .....