

Markets Forum

A meeting of Markets Forum was held on Wednesday, 19th March, 2008.

Present: Cllr Robert Cook (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Jennie Beaumont and Cllr Ian Dalgarno; L Hutchinson, P Johnson, J Mason and P Mason (Markets Representatives).

Officers: C Watson (DNS); P K Bell (LD).

Also in attendance: No other person was in attendance.

Apologies: Cllr Mrs Suzanne Fletcher and Cllr Bill Noble.

MF 33/07 **Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests declared.

MF 34/07 **Minutes of the Meeting Held 23rd January 2008**

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January 2008.

CONCLUDED that the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd January 2008 be agreed as a true record.

MF 35/07 **Matters Arising**

Markets Realignment

The Markets Officer informed Members that the Markets Realignment had now been completed.

Billingham Changes to Access

The Markets Officer informed Members that the access to Billingham was now policed by Halladale's representative Ian Hirst. In order to allow access via a dropped bollard, the markets service has provided cover from 6 - 8am.

Top and Side Sheets

The issue of the cost of replacement top and side sheets was discussed. A Market Trader reported that he could get top and side sheets locally that were better quality and cheaper. The Chairman asked the Market Trader to bring in price list and the technical specification with him to the next meeting.

MF 36/07 **Enforcement of Rules and Regulations**

The Markets Officer reported that senior officers from the Council had reported that some Market Traders were not using the recently issued blue and white sheets. The Markets Officer reported that failure to use the blue and white sheets would result in an enforcement situation.

The Markets Officer reported that a survey had recently been completed of the sheets that were missing. A comprehensive list had been produced and an

order had been placed with a supplier. The outstanding sheets would be received in the next couple of weeks.

The Markets Officer reported that some flags were being ordered to replace the pelmets as the pelmets were hard to see.

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.

MF **Stockton International Riverside Festival**
37/07

The Markets Officer reported that he had attended a meeting regarding Stockton International Riverside Festival (SIRF). The Markets Officer had asked for a comprehensive plan of SIRF by the end of May to help deal with the Market Traders that would be displaced. The Markets Officer would try and reallocate the displaced Market Traders. The Markets Officer reported that the displacement would be mainly on 2nd August 2008.

The Chairman outlined that a special meeting may be needed in April 2008 to discuss the issue of SIRF in more detail.

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.

MF **Marketing the Market**
38/07

The Markets Officer reported that a survey on markets in the Borough had been completed last December. The Marketing Officer distributed the results of the survey. The Marketing Officer outlined the results of the survey and asked Members for any new ideas to help market the market. Members felt that as more people were becoming environmentally conscious the issue of using reusable bags should be investigated. The Chairman requested that the Markets Officer obtain some prices for some reusable bags with the Council logo printed on them.

The Chairman outlined an email from Lynda Guilfoyle (Environmental Projects Officer) which detailed an event called "Greener Living Road Show". The event would take place at Preston Park on Sunday, 8th June 2008 and a free spot was available at the show to promote the Market. The Chairman asked Members to agree that £350 could be spent from the Promotional Fund on leaflets. Members did not reach an agreement on whether £350 from the Promotional Fund could be spent.

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.

MF **Any Other Business**
39/07

Severe Weather

Members discussed the issue of abandoning the market due to severe weather. Members discussed whether they wanted the Markets Officer to go to the market at 6.00 am to decide if the market should be abandoned when there was severe weather. After discussing this issue Members decided this was not a good idea as the severe weather could subside later that day. An early abandonment of the market would also cause problems for Market Traders that

had perishable goods.

Access to Ramsgate

Market Traders reported that they could not access Ramsgate due to problems with car parking. The Markets Officer outlined that he would try and resolve the issue with Nigel Gibb (Car Parking Manager).

CONCLUDED that the information be noted.