



MINUTES OF THE MARKETS AND EVENTS COMMITTEE OF KETTERING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THETOLLER CHURCH ROOMS, MEETING LANE, KETTERING AT 7PM ON 22nd MARCH 2023

Councillors Present: Cllr Craig Skinner (Chair)
Cllrs Robin Carter, Dez Dell, Alexander Evelyn, Mark Rowley and Bev Wright

Officers present:- Martin Hammond, Town Clerk
Emma Dezelu Deputy Town Clerk

No members of the public/press attended.

Item Number	Description
ME22/052	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Fedorowycz
ME22/053	Declarations of interest None declared
ME22/054	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 1 ST February 2023 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the chair
ME22/055	Monthly Town centre footfall data Information provided for the period September 2002-January 2023 was provided via NNC's contractors, Vivacity, which set out footfall and traffic movements in and around the town centre. However, the data was incorrect in one respect and in its current format, needed further evaluation for it to be useful. The clerk would ask NNC how they were interpreting the data and to correct the duplicated information between December and January
ME22/056	Events Schedule 2022/23 A report summarising activity and spend during 2022-23 was submitted. Some further expenditure on the brochure was to be incurred.

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ME22/057	Christmas Lights Switch on Event 2023 A report was submitted providing quotes for the management of the Christmas Lights Switch ON IN 2023, which included the provision of audio systems, a stage, stage management, artist liaison and lighting, including effects. RESOLVED that the submission by The Stage Men in the sum of £3313 be approved.
ME22/058	Events Schedule 2023-24 A report was submitted detailing progress with events planning for 2023. It was noted that the Council was at maximum capacity to deliver these events. Other events which were being led by others, but which the Council would be supporting, included Kettfest and the Literary Festival. The Mayor elect had provisionally agreed with Wicksteed Park that a mayoral food and drink event could be held at Wicksteed Park in early September; running such an event would make September a very crowded period for KTC event and it was therefore suggested that the fifth summer Saturday could be removed from the calendar to accommodate this extra event. RESOLVED that, in principle, the fifth Summer Saturday be removed from the calendar and the budget allocation of £1000 be novated over to the Mayoral event at Wicksteed Park, subject to more details being provided at a future meeting.
ME22/059	General Market Performance A report was submitted which addressed several aspects of the market operation. It was noted that the budget out-turn for this year and next year was likely to be more favourable than expected. There had been a big increase in new inquiries for the market in the last few weeks, although the shortage of electricity points in the area was limiting the number of new traders who could be accommodated. Complaints had been received about the conduct of some market traders who were spreading themselves out beyond their pitches and leaving vehicles in the pedestrian area.

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	<p>The report also examined the need to continue to offer introductory free trading days to new traders and recommended an increase in pitch fees for speciality markets.</p> <p>RESOLVED</p> <p>i) That Council be RECOMMENDED to</p> <p>a) Abolish the free introductory days policy and give the clerk or deputy clerk discretion to provide a discount on any new trader's fees where it makes a difference to the trader assuming a regular presence</p> <p>b) to increase the charge for speciality markets (stall and pitch) to £21 and (pitch only) £10, except for the 2023 season of summer Saturdays.</p> <p>ii) That a market superintendent role be created to manage traders on Fridays and Saturdays for two hours per day, and that the Staffing Committee be asked to approve arrangements, up to ceiling cost of £3000 per annum, for a trial period of three months.</p>
<p>ME22/060</p>	<p>Bands in the Park Programme 2023</p> <p>Following the discussion at Council on 15th March 2023, a verbal report was provided on the facilities which were required to run a bands in the park programme. It was acknowledged that the facilities which Rockingham Park enjoyed were not readily available elsewhere in town and that major investment would be required to duplicate them elsewhere within NNC's parks and open spaces.</p> <p>Nevertheless, it was agreed that consideration would be given to the sorts of events and activities that could be provided in other areas which did not necessarily need the same level of infrastructure as required by Bands in the Park.</p>
<p>ME22/061</p>	<p>Exclusion of press and public</p> <p>RESOLVED to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with S100 of the Local Government Act 1972, by reason of paragraphs 6 and 9 of Schedule 12A to the Act, because the business to be transacted relates to the business affairs of a third party and the determination of a contract for supplies and services.</p>

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ME22/062	Christmas Lights 2023 Onwards This item had been placed on the agenda by Council at its last meeting, so that the committee could make a recommendation on the options for Christmas lights provision for 2023 onwards. The Committee had two tender submissions from specialist providers and debated the relative merits of each, as well as the merits of a three and five year contract. RESOLVED to RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL that a) The Council enter into a three year agreement b) That the tender by Company B be accepted in full <i>A fuller version of this minute is set out separately in an exempt minute, not available to the public.</i>
	Meeting closed at 8pm

Signed.....

Date.....