

Market Traders Liaison Group Meeting

Wednesday 27 November 2014 at 2.30pm in the International Room, Civic Centre

Present:	Cllr John Briggs (JB) (Chair)	North Lincolnshire Council
	Cllr Tony Ellerby (TE)	North Lincolnshire Council
	Jenny Couch (JC)	North Lincolnshire Council
	Sean Brennan (SB)	North Lincolnshire Council
	John Fullerton (JF)(mins)	North Lincolnshire Council
	Margaret Price (MP)	North Lincolnshire Council
	Angelo Monopoli (AM)	Scunthorpe New Hall
	Paul Potter (PP)	Scunthorpe New Hall
	Anna Huggins (AH)	Scunthorpe Old Hall
	Margaret Rushton (MR)	Ashby Market
	Janet Sutton (JS) from 3.10pm	Ashby Market

1156 Apologies: Received from Jeff Sewell, Stuart Campbell

1157 JB began the meeting by introducing JC who gave an overview of her role following the recent Service Review. JC introduced SB as special projects manager, stating there would be some initial fact finding regarding who does and does not use NLC markets. A questionnaire was to be carried out to determine a baseline for future actions that were needed to improve and develop NLC markets.

1158 Minutes of last meeting held on Tuesday 20 May 2014 were read through. MR thought they did not accurately reflect all that was said in the last meeting, particularly in regard to the extra craft market at Ashby. JB stated that the minutes were to record decisions. MR said that the opportunity to have a craft market at Ashby had been missed. JC thought that a longer period was needed to properly organise and promote such an event and that her team and MP from tourism would work with traders to make such events a success in the future. MR

thought there were some tough hurdles to cross for individual traders to run an extra market. JC responded that the whereas the Markets Policy needed to kept to it may be worth looking into but that any future events would need to consider the costs involved. JB stated that members of the group would be visiting the markets. AM thought the leases issue was not minuted accurately and that there was a current issue concerning a lease transfer. JB informed AM that JC was investigating the matter. Not-with-standing the above comments the minutes were agreed.

1159 Scunthorpe Food Hall. AM, PP Food Hall. Maintenance, repairs and canopies

AM enquired about the removal of a pair of swing doors from a rear entrance outside Clive Smith's. JF explained that the doors were deemed to a safety risk and were removed and that he had made enquiries as to when they would be replaced but had not had a definitive response. AM said that the delivery area should be more closely monitored and that stock should be stored away, out of sight of the public, as soon as a delivery is made. AM stated that some of the canopies in the Food Hall were looking dusty.

1160 AM reported that a small number of traders continued to leave early on Fridays or Saturdays and this was not good for the market. JC asked if enforcing the leaving times would result in traders leaving the market all together. AM stated that if traders could not keep to the stated times they should go to a market where opening times suit them. AH thought that enforcing opening times as stated in the Charter would not work in the Old Hall and that some would cease trading if forced to keep to the published times.

AM thought "calling off" in the Food Hall from 1.00pm on Saturdays was too early, resulting in traders selling out which contributed further to them packing up early.

MR said this issue had been discussed before and that traders needed to be encouraged to keep to the opening times. PP added that the opening times were clearly stated in their leases. AH requested JC to visit the market to see for herself why some traders in the Old Hall leave earlier than the published times.

1161 PP intended to ask about developments regarding the provision of public toilets but has seen work start on shops 1 and 2. JB confirmed work had started there.

1162 AM reported that rain water collects on the footpath leading to the rear of the Food Hall. JB asked JF to have a survey and ask Property Services to rectify if necessary.

Action: JF to follow up with Property Services

1163 PP said a couple of traders were concerned their electric bills had increased significantly recently, almost doubling. PP asked if these meters could be checked. JB asked PP to give the details of the traders to JF.

Action: PP to inform JF of the traders concerned and their electric meters to be checked for accuracy

1164 AH Old Hall. Christmas opening times

AH asked if posters could be put up informing the public of the Christmas period opening times. JF said posters had been ordered and they would go up as soon as they were done, hopefully this week or next. AH had been asked to enquire why leaseholders had to pay for Bank Holiday trading days and they were not entitled to free weeks. JF explained it was part of the lease terms. AM and PP agreed. AM relayed that the other Old Hall rep Jeff Sewell had asked what was being done to utilise the Podium. MP said there were attempts to have charities and events on the Podium but that it was proving difficult. AH asked for an information board on the Podium so groups and potential users of the Podium could contact the Tourism Team. MP agreed to do this.

Action: JF to display Christmas opening posters by next week and MP to produce an information board for the Podium

TE thought the Old Hall was cold and uninviting and that the Podium should be put to better, more frequent use.

1165 Management issues. No Issues

1166 Ashby. JS and MR

JS asked when there would be a visit from the new market manager. JC explained she was not the new market manager but would be visiting Ashby market in due course but unfortunately was not available until mid/late December. MR commented that maintenance issues such as broken light fittings or the pot holes in the market can sometimes take a long time to be resolved. JF reported that the pot holes in Column Ave car park had been filled and had asked

for the others around the market to be filled at the same time. JC informed the meeting that regular maintenance meetings between Property Services and market management were to be reinstated in order to discuss issues so they can be resolved in a timely manner. TE suggested a weekly “snagging list” that is then sent to maintenance services.

JS asked about the sign with opening times at Ashby market and what promotions were pending. SB reiterated that there was to be a questionnaire in order to establish a baseline from which to assess the best way forward. MR commented that there had been a questionnaire previously and that action was needed. In terms of market promotions MP said a leaflet had been printed and was to be distributed across North Lincolnshire. JS said that last year there was a school choir at Ashby market but they could not be heard in all areas of the market. JC assured the group that other options for promoting all NLC markets would be looked into. TE offered to enquire about the possibility of having Father Christmas visit Ashby market and suggested the Salvation Army are contacted to play a carol service. In the absence of generic festive decorations MR said some traders do decorate their stalls.

MR said Estuary TV had been in contact with the view to them transmitting a piece on the local TV channel about markets. JC asked JF to forward the information to Kirsty Westfield at Corporate.

Action: JF to contact Kirsty Westfield

1167 Any other business

PP reported there had been a padlock super glued in the veg warehouse. AM asked if the security arrangements could be looked at.

Action: JF and JC to discuss security arrangements.

PP asked if the Shopwatch poster could be distributed to traders so they can identify people that had been banned from the town Centre shops.

Action: JF to enquire and inform PP.

SB confirmed he would be visiting Scunthorpe and Ashby markets in due course to talk to traders about the way forward.

JC informed the meeting that she would be out of her office until December 22nd but would continue to check her emails should anyone wish to contact her.

1168 Next meeting Wednesday 11 February 2015 at 2.30pm at Scunthorpe market
TBC