



Sleaford Town Council
Culture, Events and Markets Panel
Notes and Report of Meeting – 6th February 2019
10.30am to 12.00 Noon

Panel members present:

Councillor Ken Fernandes
Councillor Francesca Richards (Panel Lead)
Councillor Adrian Snookes
Councillor David Suiter

Meeting and Panel supported by the Deputy Clerk and Administration Officer (SG).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Linda Edwards-Shea and Jan Mathieson.

Councillor Richards informed the Panel that Councillor Fernandes would be joining the meeting once the meeting he was in had finished. Therefore, no decisions were to be made in the meeting until Councillor Fernandes was present, which would make the meeting quorate.

2. Report from the meeting held on 9th January 2019

The report was noted.

3. Valentine's Market Debrief

The Panel received a list of feedback from the stall holders who attended the Market, all of which were very positive. Councillor Richards informed the Panel that there had been no negativity and there was good footfall, despite the snowy weather. All the stall holders were happy and were very complimentary on the Town Hall rooms and facilities. Having the event on the same day as the NCCD's opening day of their exhibition and the Farmers Market had worked well. Councillor Richards thanked all the entertainers who performed on the day and also Councillors Snookes, Fernandes and Suiter for assisting on the day of the event. Councillor Richards also thanked the Administration Officer (SG) for all the organisation of the event and the decorating of the rooms.

4. Sleaford Night Light

Administration Officer (SG) informed the Panel that the company who supplied the outdoor cinema event had been in touch with her and Councillor Snookes about a Night Light event that they were holding in another town. After discussion, it was requested that the company be contacted to ask them to attend a meeting with the Panel to discuss holding a similar event and to discuss the outdoor cinema events for 2019.

Councillor Fernandes arrived at the meeting at 11am, therefore making the Panel quorate.

5. Charity Car Boot Sales

Administration Officer (SG) informed the Panel that only three charities had come forward to take up a Car Boot Sale date each, despite the widespread advertising. Discussion then followed about holding the Car Boot Sales. Note – since the meeting, one charity has pulled out, one date is secured (5th May) and the third date (4th August) hasn't yet been confirmed by the charity.

Recommendation: that in principle, Sleaford Town Councillors run the Car Boot Sale in Eastgate Car Park on Sunday 3rd March. A member of the Services Team will be required to put the barriers out on the morning

of the Car Boot Sale. The Culture Panel to revisit the Charity Car Boot Sales idea at their next meeting, after seeing if any more charities or groups come forward.

6. Markets

The Deputy Clerk explained to the Panel that she and the Clerk had spoken to the Market traders to gauge their feelings on the way forward with the Market. General indications are that the Market is very cheap and very reasonable, particularly with the 'buy one date, get the next free' offer for regular traders. The traders had also informed the Clerk and Deputy Clerk that footfall is just not present in the Market Place for them and trialling a move to Money's Yard is often suggested.

Discussion then followed on the Council taking part in the 'Love Your Local Market' event which will be taking place from 17th to 31st May 2019.

Recommendation: from the Panel and traders, that the Market be kept for all three days – Fridays, Saturdays and Mondays and a move to Money's Yard be trialled. This would be reviewed in two month's time. If NKDC agree to the trial, the move to take place for 1st April 2019. Traders at the regular Markets and the Farmers Markets would be contacted to inform them of this and advertising would take place. Also that the Council participate in the 'Love Your Local Market' event in May.

7. Gazebos

The Panel discussed the future use of the gazebos at Markets and events, due to several issues over the years regarding health and safety, the weather, breakages, man power etc. The Panel also received a photograph of one of the gazebos that had flipped inside out and turned over due to a sudden gust of wind at the Christmas Market,

Recommendation: that the gazebos are not hired out in future for STC Markets and events, but they would be made available to members of the public who wanted to hire them to take away for external events.

8. Outdoor Cinema Events for 2019

The Panel discussed ideas for the outdoor cinema events which Full Council had already approved. The dates of Friday 6th September and Saturday 7th September to be checked with the cinema provider. The outdoor cinema events to be put on the next Culture Panel agenda.

9. 1940s Event

Discussion took place about holding a 1940s event in Sleaford in the Summer. The ideas put forward were utilising the Town Hall, having a picnic in Navigation Yard, flying of the flag, music, stalls, hire of benches, dancing and involving all the shops by asking them to decorate their windows. The RAF Waddington pipers and drums could be invited and also all the Cadets be invited to have a stall. A date is still to be decided, but the time of the event to be 1.00pm to 5.00pm and Full Council to be asked for a budget for this event.

Recommendation: that a 1940s event be held at the Town Hall and in Navigation Yard. A budget of up to £500 to be found for the event by the Clerk.

10. Correspondence

Councillor Richards informed the Panel that the Landlords from Riverside Centre had contacted the Clerk to ask whether the Farmers Market could be moved to that location on one or more dates to help support any future events that are held in there and to promote the shopping centre.

After discussion, it was agreed that whilst the Council will be very happy to support any events in that area and will help advertise, that it wouldn't be suitable for the Farmers Market to move due to STC trialling a new location themselves. The Clerk to be asked to write back to the Landlords to inform them of this.

11. Future Events

St George's Day Market – Full Council have already agreed to this event and it will be held on Saturday 27th April 2019, from 10am to 3pm. The area previously put forward for the event was the Market Place, but after the success of using the Town Hall and Navigation Yard for the Christmas Market and the Valentine's Market, the Panel agreed that the St George's Market should follow suit. There is more footfall at the Town Hall and Navigation Yard and the parking is adjacent to the site. It was agreed that if needed, the area by the tractor shed in the Car Park could also be used for the event. Note – the NCCD have given permission for Navigation Yard to be used for this event.

The Panel discussed stall and pitch prices and put forward that the indoor stalls would be £10 each, with a table and chairs provided. The outdoor pitches would be free of charge, with a refundable deposit required and traders would need to bring their own table/gazebo etc. Two members of the Services Team were requested to assist at the event at the beginning and end.

Ideas for the day were put forward, which included owls, Morris Dancing, live entertainment, hire of the sound company who worked at the Christmas Market, a climbing wall, Shakespeare readings and participation of local school choirs.

Recommendation: that the St George's Market take place in the Town Hall and Navigation Yard, with indoor stalls charged at £10 each and outdoor pitches free of charge, with a refundable deposit.

Councillor Suiter asked that a Holocaust Memorial Day be put onto the agenda for the next meeting.

12. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 6th March 2019 in the Town Hall, at 10.30am.

The meeting finished at 12 Noon.