



# WETHERBY TOWN COUNCIL MARKETS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
**Time:** 3:00pm  
**Location:** Deighton Room, Wetherby Town Hall, Market Place, Wetherby, LS22 6NE

**Present:** Councillor Bradley (Chair)  
Councillor Buckle  
Councillor Moss  
Councillor Riddell

**In attendance:** Iona Taylor, Town Clerk  
Rowann Fitzpatrick, Assistant Clerk  
Helena Briden, Communications & Events Officer  
Councillor Ager-Mills, attending as a member of the public.

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## MINUTES

1. **Apologies** – None.  
Councillor Ager-Mills, as of the Full Council meeting on *Tuesday 14th May 2024*, is no longer part of the Markets Committee and attended the meeting in a public capacity.
2. **Declarations of interest and request for dispensations** – None.
3. **Questions or comments from members of the public**  
Councillor Ager-Mills, attending as a member of the public, suggested a child friendly activity for the summer markets to attract a more diverse footfall.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting.**  
It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the last meeting of the Markets Committee, held on *Thursday 18th April 2024*, be received.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes.**
  - 5.1 **Communication with traders.**  
It was **NOTED** that due to lack of use, the ballot box for receiving trader requests and questions will be retired. However, traders will still receive meeting agendas and Councillor Bradley will maintain one to one communication with traders on Market days.

## 5.2 Parking on market days.

It was **NOTED** that a meeting attended by Councillor Harrington, Councillor Lamb, and an Officer from Leeds City Council Highways Department, was held at 2pm on *Thursday 16th May 2024*.

A number of options were considered to ease the issues raised from a lack of Blue Badge parking spaces being available on Market days. These include:

- A proposal to pedestrianise the shambles while maintaining access on a Thursday.
- Potential for bollards to be installed which will be managed by WTC.
- Replacement of the single yellow line on Cross Street with double yellow lines and include lines up to the curb to stop blue badge parking too close to the entrance to the shambles.
- Replacement of existing informal parking at Cross Street with loading bays and up to 3 blue badge parking bays.
- Consideration of previous proposal for additional safer parking across the town which were discussed at the previous meeting on *Monday 16th October 2023*.

It was understood that the Officer from LCC Highways Department will progress with drawing up proposals for the above options with an estimated lead time of 4 weeks.

Assistant Clerk to follow up prior to the next Markets Committee meeting.

## 5.3 International market.

It was **NOTED** that the initial enquirer for an international market has not yet sent their market plan, however another Market provider has since enquired about hosting an international market in Wetherby.

Following a proposal from Councillor Bradley, seconded by Councillor Buckle, it was **AGREED** to continue liaising with the initial enquirer for the provision of the planned International Market while also making initial introductions with the second enquirer.

## 5.4 NABMA Diagnostic Tool.

It was **NOTED** that there were no new updates to be received.

*\*Councillor Ager-Mills left the meeting at 3:25pm\**

## 6. Survey.

It was **NOTED** that the survey period for the public consultation of the markets ended on *Thursday 28th March 2024*. Councillor Riddell has begun compile and write up a draft report for the resident's part of the survey and will present this at the following meeting.

Councillor Riddell has also collected the anecdotal data from Business's and Market Trader's sections of the survey and will analyse these in due time.

## 7. Request for market space.

A request for market space on *Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024* was received from Transdev for the promotion of their new electric buses that will be running along route 7 between Harrogate, Wetherby, and Leeds. It was **NOTED** that Transdev aim to run competitions for the local community and will offer radio coverage on Harrogate Radio for the Market.

Following a discussion, it was **RESOLVED** that the committee has no objections to the request however, due to space limitations, the bus would be best placed on the market spaces by BAE Coffee.

As proposed by Councillor Riddell and seconded by Councillor Bradley, it was **AGREED** that Transdev would be charged for the use of 2 spaces at the charity/community rate as it was determined that the promotion of the bus and its aim to provide more reliable services is in the interest of the community.

Assistant Clerk to send a letter to local businesses that may be affected by the placement of this bus to notify them of the change to the usual market plan.

8. **Financial Outturn.**

The Markets Financial Outturn for the 2023/24 period was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** by the committee. Notably, the markets have generated a surplus. This is due to negotiating the fee for stall erection and an increase in the number of traders trading on Market days.

The committee discussed a number of options to improve the market with the surplus however it was **RESOLVED** that no decision or actions would be made until after the completed Market Survey report is received and considered.

*\*Councillor Buckle left the meeting at 4:11pm\**

9. **Items for information.**

9.1 **Correspondence – NABMA – Making a case for Markets.**

Correspondence from NABMA received on *Tuesday 23rd April 2024* was **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.

10. **Next meeting.**

Due to concerns that the next Markets Committee meeting may be inquorate, it was **RESOLVED** to cancel the Markets Committee Meeting on *Thursday 20th June 2024*.

Following a proposal by Councillor Riddell, seconded by Councillor Bradley, it was **RESOLVED** to hold an additional meeting of the Markets Committee on *Monday 24th June 2024* at 3:30pm in Wetherby Town Hall.

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*The meeting closed at 4.14pm.*

*These minutes were recorded and prepared by Rowann Fitzpatrick, Assistant Clerk.*