

For Council: 27 January 2020 APPENDIX 2

Lichfield City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Markets Working Group (MWG) held in the Ashmole Room, Guildhall, Lichfield on Tuesday 17 December at 11.45am

PRESENT: Councillors J Checkland (Chairman) P McDermott, D Robertson, C Spruce and M Warfield.

IN ATTENDANCE: J Appleyard (LCC Markets Officer),
A Briggs (Town Clerk)
S Thomas (Deputy Town Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Councillor J Smith

7. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

None

8. MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2019 be confirmed as a correct record [minutes adopted by Council on 2 December 2019].*

9. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None that are not considered at Minute number 10 below.

10. CJ EVENTS, WARWICKSHIRE

The Working Group discussed the meeting with CJ Events Warwickshire that was held immediately prior to this meeting of the Working Group in order to discuss options for the City council's Farmers' market. This follows the resolution by Council on 2 December 2019 to discontinue the previous arrangements.

The credentials of CJ Events were found to be very satisfactory; it was agreed by all that the meeting had been positive and that the Working Group is keen to progress the relationship with CJ Events further.

The discussions with CJ Events had been wide ranging, including recommendations that the date of the Market should be altered from the first Thursday of each month to the first Sunday of each month, with the possible exception of January. Given that half of the Square is occupied on most Sundays by ad-hoc hirers and bookings are in place for Sundays in 2020, it was agreed that the other half of the Square could be made available for the Market initially in order that demand can be gauged.

It was also suggested that the current Farmers' Market should be renamed as a 'Producers Market'. The Working Group discussed the financial benefits of working with CJ Events and that the company would assist with design and marketing of the new market, notably via their social media channels. CJ Events would pay to the Council a proportion of the earned income from stall rental, the income to the Council would therefore be variable depending upon the number of Traders present at each Market.

Following detailed discussion, the following recommendations to Council were agreed:

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:

- 1. The existing Farmers' Market as held on the first Thursday of each month be discontinued, with the final Market taking place on 6 February 2020**
- 2. The Council resolve to establish a new 'Producer's Market' to replace the Farmers' Market; the Market to be established under the provisions of the Food Act 1984 part III,**

and take place on the first Sunday of each month as required; the first 'Producers Market' to be held on Sunday 1 March 2020.

- 3. That the City Council enters into a preliminary agreement to host the Producer's Market in partnership with CJ Events for a period of six months, with a break clause that can be activated by either party at any point after four months.*
- 4. Delegated authority be given to the Markets Working Group to activate the 'break clause' referred to at recommendation 3*
- 5. The Markets Working Group to review the partnership with CJ Events following the June 2020 Producer's Market and to make recommendations to Council regarding future arrangements as soon as possible thereafter*
- 6. Delegated authority be given to the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chairman of the Working Group to agree with CJ Events the detail of the initial six-month agreement; to include logistical arrangements, stall price setting etc in readiness for the first Producer's Market on 1 March 2020.*

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

10.30am on Tuesday 16 June 2020

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS

THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 12.15pm.