

Notes of Market Working Group meeting

Thursday, 30th April, 2026

Present: Rob Sexton (RS), Steve Craddock (SC), Wanda Bussell (WB) Bertie Rawlings (BR)

Apologies: None

Discussion:

- Notes of last meeting (26th March, 2026) agreed, with an amendment to the item regarding hire of a Lace Walk premises. The figure of £10k was apparently not correct.
- Matters arising:
 - RS had checked the number of poles adjacent to the reinstated pitches, on which to attach notices re parking overnight, as being three. **BR to arrange production of notices and to attach on Thursdays if the pitches are to be used.**
 - RS had received agreement from HM to purchase 3 or 4 test pedestrian barriers. **BR to obtain, but to measure full length of market to determine overall cost,** which will be spread by buying piecemeal over time.
 - BR reported he had spoken with Gorilla Gazebos re some legs not working. They had explained what to do and indicated that spare parts are available.
 - RS reported that the auctioneers did not feel it appropriate to do valuations on the market. However, Fountain Antiques may be interested in setting up an antiques market on Saturdays in the family church.
 - RS had determined that the provisional date for the Xmas lights turn on was 21st November. **BR to contact traders re Xmas market.**
- BR reported that during last month the number of stalls had been between 12 and 18 on Saturdays and 8 to 10 on Tuesdays. New trader doing computer repairs, but the fishmonger on Tuesdays had decided to leave due to low takings.
- Apple Day discussed. RS reported that the apple press did not need any services, so could be placed anywhere on the High Street. **BR was asked to contact traders re apple related products, including Fowlers Eggs and Yellow Deli.** He had contacted Norcotts Cider, but received no response. **Other cider companies suggested for contact. Also suggested that some charities might be interested in joining in the apple theme. BR to pursue.**
- Yellow Day (now 20th June) discussed. Apparently the concept is causing quite a buzz in the town, with much talk on WhatsApp and Facebook. BR reported that Mark Rich and Lemon Tree are very keen to be involved and will produce a poster and leaflets, with ads going up in the library and on their What's On site. He expressed the need to sort out pitches for charity stalls, but asked whether this event might be worth offering

free pitches to all stallholders? **RS to seek advice.** Art work is being obtained from schools, and DCT, Andy's Man Club and BroClub will be invited to publicise what they do. The council will purchase 3 hampers of various sizes as prizes for the window display competition.

- RS had been informed by HM that signage to the High Street on Charter Day was being discussed with Tonic Creatives.
- RS reported he had emailed EDDC re use of the land by Lloyds Bank and they had intimated that an application, with 6 weeks notice, had to be completed. **RS agreed to speak to them directly to see whether this was really necessary.** He reported that agreement to the initiative had been agreed by TMC and **BR should therefore liaise with Thelma Hulbert Gallery regarding contact with artists.**
- BR reported that he had contacted craft dealers and had received 2 replies, so the craft element will continue on last Saturday in May, but not to the extent we would like.

Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday, 21st May, 2026 at 6pm