

Present:

Prudhoe Town Council: Cllrs Mrs J McGee (Chair), G McCreedy, Mrs N McGee, A Piper, B Futers; R Whinney (Clerk) Apologies for absence: None

Change of date for Prudhoe Market

After a brief discussion, it was agreed to recommend to the Ordinary Meeting that the date of the monthly market on the Glade be changed to the first Saturday of each month. It was noted that the suggestion had been put forward by the regular traders at the market, and it was generally agreed that the move would make sense because shoppers would be expected to have more money available to spend at this time of the month. It was also suggested that shoppers would find this an easier date to remember.

Publicity

It was agreed to request NCC to place an advertisement in the Hexham Courant advertising the next market and noting that the markets would continue to take place at the same revised point in the month in future. This request would be made via Mr D Hunt, the line manager of the Markets Manager.

In the event that NCC declined to act as requested, it was agreed to recommend to the Ordinary Meeting that the Town Council place an advertisement on the same lines in the Hexham Courant.

It was suggested that if agreed, the advertisement should be placed in the 29 January issue of the Courant.

It was suggested that efforts be made to encourage the Courant to report the new date of the market, noting the following points:

That the date had been agreed with traders

That the new date had been chosen to help shoppers

That the matter had been agreed with NCC as the Council's partner in the venture

That the Council agreed that the move of the date was a good idea, and that it would contribute to the ongoing growth and success of the market.

It was also suggested:

That the 'Prudhoe Notes' column in the Courant, contributed by a local resident who liaised with the Council amongst other organisations, be requested to report the change in date

That a poster announcing the new date should be placed on the Council's website, with a link to this placed on social media.

That the NCC Markets Manager, Mr Brown be asked to publicise the new date to potential traders.

Growth of the market

A number of suggestions were made regarding potential new stallholders:

Hollybush Landscaping (plants and cakes), So and So Bakery, Musical entertainment, Amanti Cupcakes, Simply Cheesecakes (it was thought that this Team Valley-based trader might have lots of contacts as well)

It was acknowledged that some of the traders could be tempted by the idea of less frequent visits to the market (maybe two or three times a year).

A visit to the monthly food market at Ryton was also suggested when this re-opened in March.

Signage

A brief discussion took place concerning signage in view of the meeting taking place on Friday 22 January in the morning. Further suggestions were made, including in respect of signage for recycling locations, schools (including Adderlane School), Highfield Park (opposite the entrance). The suggestion previously made by Cllr Simpson in respect of de-cluttering of signage was also welcomed.