

For the attention of:

Redditch Borough Council's Executive Committee.

As regards to comments made about the market going to a three day week market, this has been discussed in previous meetings. With most traders working four or five days a week, all year round on Redditch Market. Shortening the working week will affect their lives and make it harder for those to make a reasonable living from only three days.

None of the traders want the market in Redditch to be run by a private organisation as we feel this would not have a real benefit to the town or traders. We as traders feel that there has not been enough contact with the company dealing with the review, in regards to our opinions and views on how the market should be ran in the future.

We would like to know how many of your colleagues and yourself purchase from the market or communicate with traders on a regular basis?

We feel that we have not had very much support from the council regarding concerns for the market's future.

Various shops in the local area to the market have previously stated to traders that when the market is not in operation they have noticed a drop in sales on those days and find business quieter.

This shows that the market is the main hub of the square which in turn supports local business and economy.

We would also like to point out another option for the running of Redditch market is to talk to all traders about running it as a co-operative?

We would also like to know when we will be having consultation talks with the Executive Committee.

With regards

Redditch Market Traders

P.S. please find attached an agenda with concerns, and an agenda for the trader's car park area.

Agenda

The items below are the concerns we have for the market at present and would like to discuss:

- We feel that Pop-up style Market Stalls are not required and would mean unnecessary finances being used and we also feel the life span of such stalls would not justify the costs.
- The above mentioned stalls have been publicised as a high cost to purchase and put up and take down each day, the figures that were mentioned seem to be far fetched and not necessary. The costs mentioned, equates to £71,500 which we would like to see how this figure was obtained.
- All we require are new covers and side's and backs for the market stalls that are already in use. These would help the market area look smart.
- We feel that the sides etc could be erected by stall holders them selves and returned each day after trading hrs, if covers are lost or damaged then the trader who used them the day they go missing damaged, would have to pay for replacements.
- We also feel a good idea would be to have anchor points at the rear of each stall for the anchoring of the back covers which in turn would provide more safety as the stalls would be anchored down.
- Also a good idea would be that all 5 day traders cleaned there own top covers every season which helps in appearance of market. Also lowers cost to council as traders do the cleaning not council workers.
- As regards to rubbish being left, traders clean up area after trading and use the bin bags supplied. Several of the traders also check to see if areas tidy and if not remove. This is done also by council litter pickers who do a great job when they are in town working.
- The pigeon problem has been noticed by traders who have seen members of the public deliberately feeding them by leaving bread and other baked goods on the green; we feel more signage needs to be allocated also frequent visits by enforcement officers to the areas to deal with offenders. It has also been noticed that dog owners have started letting there dogs mess on the green and are not removing it, as this is an offence by law something needs to be done to stop this before it becomes a serious problem.
- Publicity for the market and the activities available in the market areas at certain times of the year e.g. Christmas Easter and summer. This would help encourage people to partake in these activities and also publicise the market.
- We would like to know if there is any chance we would be able to have help in setting up and running a face book page for the market to help increase foot fall.
- Towards the end of last year there had been some mention of the council doing a scheme were traders would be able to receive card payments is there any further information on this?
- Another major problem is the car park where traders park there vehicles, this is due to other centre users parking in the bays which are meant for traders and even though emails have been sent this is still being a problem, how are the council going to deal with this.

- The above is also a health and safety risk due to area being blocked by vehicles which means emergency vehicles cannot access town centre from this point. This is also a problem the other side by the back of library and post office as Vehicles Park there and block the emergency access barrier.
 - We would also like to find out the price to advertise on the big screen in the Kingfisher so we could advertise the market.
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