

# Notes from Meeting with Traders on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013 (4.30pm)

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Present:

- Circ 40 Market Traders
- Norman Proudfoot, Assistant Director – HDC
- Mark Perris, Asset Officer – HDC
- Raymond Linch – Quarterbridge
- Rachael Felts, Communications and Customer Services Manager – HDC

Following introductions, Norman Proudfoot talked through the roles and responsibilities of Officers and explained the operational and development reporting structures.

Raymond Linch shared the plans for the building were shared with the meeting and talked through the design. It was noted these designs were based on the £410K expenditure, which Councillors had approved.

Following the building design presentation discussion took place.

A number of questions were raised by the antique traders which include the percentage of floor space available for trading, layouts, style & size of stalls and if traders could use the same stalls. It was noted that this specific detailed information was not to hand but talks would be had with individual traders to ensure their requirements would be noted.

The new food hall was discussed and it was noted the 16 units would be offered to existing traders in the first instance. Also to ensure the food hall is fully occupied with a well balanced mix range of traders, an advertisement would soon be placed to seek interest from other traders within a 20 mile radius of the town.

Opening hours and trading days were discussed and it was explained that the market hall would be open for seven days per week, between 9am-5.30pm. Over the coming months, individual meetings would be held with traders to establish their own specific requirements.

The plan showed mixture of permanent and 'pop-up' stalls. Those traders wishing to trade for six would be offered the permanent stalls, those wanting to trade for less days would have use of the 'pop-up' stalls.

Trading outside the building, in St Mary's Place, was raised but it was noted as the council had no responsibility for this area, further discussions would need to be had with the owners of St Mary's Place.

The timescales for this development was discussed. It would be advisable to not start work during the summer/autumn, as this can affect the income of traders. Therefore, to ensure traders are able to continue to trader over the Christmas period, it has been decided that major work would start during January 2014. This will ensure the market would be fully operational over Christmas, and would be closed during the quieter months, January to early March. Where possible, work would be carried out before January, as long as it did not cause any disruption to the trading. An alternative location for the market during the time the building was closed was discussed and traders were asked to share any idea with the council.

Thirty minute parking bays and parking for coaches was raised and it was agreed the council would look into these.

Meeting closed 6.10pm