

Dorset Council Grant for Market Area Enhancement

Working Group Meeting

Working Group Chairman: Cllr Colin Stevens

Wednesday 21st February 2024 at 10:30am in the Community Room

NOTES

In Attendance

Cllr Colin Stevens

Cllr Hugo Miéville

Cllr Roger Carter

Cllr Sheila Chapman

Cllr Rosemary Holmes

Operations Manager

Cllr Alan Cross

Town Clerk

Cllr Steve Hitchings

1. Apologies

Cllr Lynn Lindsay

2. To consider what types of usage there will be in the Market Place:

The following are put forward so far;

Local groups/organisations/charities to promote themselves, Food vans/pop-ups with seating, small events and performers (folk dancing, Stour Valley Band, buskers, etc.).

It was agreed that something attractive would have to be put on as you can't expect people to just turn up. Sylvia had originally planned a schedule of activities so that people would become accustomed to what was happening on each day of the week.

It was further agreed that the primary use would be as a seating area.

The working group felt that the markets on a Thursday had a vibrant feel in the morning and this was something which could be built upon.

3. Consultation with Residents and shopkeepers

It was agreed that a survey of residents and shop keepers would be carried out by the Town Council to ascertain what exactly was wanted by them.

4. Any other business

It was decided by the Working Group to invite Mickey Westwood, Sylvia Hixson-Andrews and Nicci Brown to the next meeting.

5. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held after the 11th March 2024 when a meeting is scheduled with Dorset Council officers.