### AGENDA ITEM 10c

NOTES OF THE GOOSE FAIR FEE SETTING MEETING held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020** at **2.00pm** 

PRESENT Councillors Mrs Anne Johnson (Mayor), Mr Barry Smith and Mr James Ellis

Representing members of the National Market Traders Federation Absent

Representing members of the Showmen's Guild Mr Robert Kefford

Representing West Devon Borough Council – Mrs Honey Foskett

Officers Mr Carl Hearn (Town Clerk), Mr Wayne Southall (General Manager) and Ms Rebecca Hadfield (Town Hall & Events Manager)

# 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - None

#### 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

a) TTC did not hold a fee setting meeting in 2018 due to the 2017 agreement whereby fees were set to raise by 1.5% over a two-year period (2017 & 2018). A fee setting meeting was not held in 2019 for that year's event as it was agreed by TTC fees would remain at the 2018 rate.

b) Matters arising – None

### 3. EVENT ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

It was noted steps taken in 2019 by TTC in regards to the events environmental impact were positive however more work was needed for 2020 and beyond. Members agreed the importance of introducing an environmental policy and that all parties needed to work together in order to achieve a consistent approach.

#### 4. WDBC LICENCE

WDBC confirmed the tender exercise for the Bedford Car Park and Bus Station showground had been undertaken and that the contracts had been awarded to the respective Showmen.

# 5. STAKEHOLDER SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FEEDBACK

The Showmen advised 2019 had been a challenging event in terms of income, with the poor weather conditions acting as a contributing factor however it was noted events / fairs throughout the country are continuing to suffer year on

year. The Showmen advised they appreciated the hold in TTC fees for the 2019 event.

# 6. TTC PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF FEES

It was noted whilst TTC had managed to negotiate minimum increases in charges from core stakeholders, increases were received from suppliers who contribute to the organisation and infrastructure of the event.

The Park and Ride figures were down in 2019, with operating costs for this activity far exceeding park and ride income and whist advertisement and promotion had been increased TTC did not see a positive outcome in terms of revenue. It was discussed whether the park and ride service should continue with members agreeing without the park and ride the offer of the event would change in its entirety.

It was explained in 2018 a significant number of traders pulled out of the event at the last minute which caused a number of challenges to the successful running of the event however it was noted a positive to come from that disruption was the ability to invite new traders to the 2019 event which is one of the TTC aim's in order to keep the event current and vibrant.

Due to the challenges explained and the freeze on charges for the 2019 event, TTC proposed an increase in the 2020 fees.

#### 7. PROPOSAL FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS

The Showmen agreed an increase in charges for 2020 was expected and an increase of 2% seemed reasonable although but advised it would need to be discussed within The Showmens Guild.

It was noted this increase would be for 2020 only to enable the Showmen and TTC to meaningfully consider the impact of tax on diesel and other factors.

#### 8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ongoing concerns regarding illegal drug paraphernalia was discussed and it was agreed further work was needed to combat this increasing issue. It was noted Trading Standards had not engaged with Goose Fair for a number of years but the event organisers would continue to seek their support.

# 9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING (OPERATIONAL)

To be confirmed. The General Manager thanked all members for attending and the meeting closed at 3pm.

Following the meeting The Showmens Guild confirmed their acceptance of the 2% increase in charges for 2020.