

## **AGENDA ITEM 9c**

**NOTES OF THE GOOSE FAIR FEE SETTING MEETING** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** at **2.00pm**

### **PRESENT**

- Wayne Southall (Chairman), Tavistock Town Council, General Manager
- Rebecca Rowe, Tavistock Town Council, Works Manager
- Lesley Reeves, Community and Compliance Officer
- Councillor Mandy Ewings, Tavistock Town Council
- Councillor Barry Smith, Tavistock Town Council
- Robert Kefford, Showmen's Guild
- Monty Howell, Showmen's Guild

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- Councillor Harry Smith, Tavistock Town Council
- Alan Jenkins, Showmen's Guild

### **2. STAKEHOLDER SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FEEDBACK**

The Showmen advised that the events they had attended in the summer of 2022 had been good, with visitor numbers higher than expected. They advised that the number of visitors to events since then had been mixed and the challenging economic environment had significantly increased their costs as well as potentially reducing visitor numbers and spend. The Showmen expressed concern that a huge increase in charges may make the event unaffordable for some traditional Goose Fair traders and passed on their thanks for the hard work and support of TTC.

### **3. TTC PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF FEES**

It was noted that TTC's aim is for a cost neutral event. In 2022 income was down on 2019 figures largely due to layout changes for safety reasons. Cost increases were received from suppliers who contribute to the organisation and infrastructure of the event, most significantly a 50% increase from WDBC for waste removal and clean up.

The Park and Ride figures were slightly up on 2019, with operating costs for this activity exceeding park and ride income.

It was explained that there were no opportunities to cut expenditure costs, TTC runs the event on the day with minimum staffing and councillor volunteers. Local volunteers already provide significant support via the Lions Club for the Park and Ride sites.

Due to the challenges explained, TTC proposed an increase of 5% for the 2023 fees in line with other services provided by TTC.

**4. PROPOSAL FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS**

The Showmen agreed an increase in charges for 2023 was expected and an increase of 5% seemed reasonable and advised that the increase would be recommended to The Showmen's Guild.

**5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING (OPERATIONAL)**

To be confirmed.

The General Manager thanked all members for attending and the meeting closed at 2:51pm.