AGENDA No 8ii

TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL
PANNIER MARKET REPORT SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2026
DATE OF REPORT 23/10/2026

PANNIER MARKET

1. General Update

a) As we move towards the winter period, our focus has increasingly shifted towards preparations for the festive season. Christmas opening times have now been agreed, and work has commenced on developing the promotional materials for November and December. A trader memorandum has also been distributed, outlining the dates for all Markets & Events activities taking place across our commercial areas throughout the festive period. The memorandum also provides traders with the opportunity to book additional trading days, including the extra Sundays and Mondays scheduled for December. This will enable traders to plan ahead and take advantage of the additional trading opportunities available during the busy festive period.

b) Members will be aware as previously reported, one of our Lock-up units is retiring and had asked if we could look into the possibility of them relinquishing their lease for a new business. We received plenty of interest in the unit and are pleased to report that a new business, Formula 3-D Prints have now signed a new lease and are already trading within the unit. The new tenant offers a wide range of 3-D art and tech, attracting a different demographic to the Pannier Market. This now continues to deliver 100% occupancy for the lock-up units.

c) Occupancy levels at present are very positive, with us operating close to 100% across the day traders and five day pitches, we have one unoccupied five day pitch that we are currently in the process of trying to let, and we are also building a portfolio of ad hoc traders, who are unable to commit each week, which will assist in filling to gaps when sickness and holiday occur. We have also had an extremely good uptake with request for all of our additional markets in December.

d) We are currently reviewing our Rules & Regulations to identify areas where changes may be required. This review is necessary as some of the existing rules are outdated and no longer fully reflect the Market's current operating model. An initial meeting has taken place with the Market Reeve, General Manager and trader representatives, during which a number of potential amendments were discussed. A further meeting is planned for late October to continue these discussions, review the proposed changes and agree on the next steps in the process.

2. Bedford Square/Events

a) As discussed at the last consultative meeting, plans are underway to rejuvenate the Bedford Square section of the Friday Charter Market, with a view to relaunching it in the spring. We are currently seeking suitable traders to participate in the relaunch, with local businesses being approached in the first instance to help establish a portfolio of local producers interested in trading at the Market. Once a number of traders have confirmed their bookings, we intend to begin promoting and advertising the relaunch early in the new year to raise awareness and encourage public interest.

b) Bedford Square continues to maintain a consistent mix of regular and new traders, contributing to the variety and overall appeal of the market. However, trading activity and footfall tend to be concentrated at weekends, with comparatively fewer activities taking place during the week. To address this, and complement the aforementioned Charter Market on Fridays, we are actively seeking additional regular traders to establish a stronger and more consistent weekday presence. The aim is to increase the range of goods and services on offer, attract more visitors throughout the week, improve the overall vibrancy of Bedford Square and therefore generating additional income.

Farmers Market Dates 2026

The confirmed dates for Farmers Markets for 2026 are as follows;
Saturday 14th & 28th November
Saturday 12th December

www.tavistockfarmersmarket.com
info@tavistockfarmersmarket.com

Key Days and Dates

- **Saturday 31st October** – Pannier Market Halloween Event
- **Friday 04th December** – Dickensian Evening (Open until 9pm)
- **Sunday 06th December** – Miss Ivy Christmas Festival
- **Monday 14th & 21st December** – Pannier Market Open
- **Sunday 13th December** – Pannier Market Christmas Event
- **Sunday 20th December** – Extra Christmas Market

3. TripAdvisor/Google Reviews 2026

Rated 5 Stars 2 weeks ago

Lots of different stalls which are all gearing up for Christmas now. It's always busy, there are also shops around the outside which are fabulous.

Rated 5 Stars 4 days ago

Great cafe and loads of interesting things to buy on diverse stalls including crafts, jewellery and antique/vintage things as well as surfer stuff and clothes. brilliant place to go.

Rated 5 Stars 4 days ago **New**

A lovely traditional market with a fabulous selection of stalls great cafe at the back of the market too

Rated 5 Stars 2 weeks ago

This is a thriving market for a wide range of products for home and visitors (one of a diminishing number of second hand book places). Crafts. Food. Then step out to an adjacent café or other eateries. One more step and a good High Street beckons. We always visit during our annual break. Update for 2026 - no bookshop now. Otherwise, as vibrant as ever.

Rated 5 Stars a month ago

What a lovely market to visit, this is the best undercover market we have ever seen, not just fruit and veg but a wide range of goods, also the town itself is well worth a visit.

Tavistock Country Garden Show 2027.

Planning and preparations for 2027 are progressing well, and we anticipate being ready to send out booking forms to traders and exhibitors early in the new year. This will provide an opportunity for both returning and new participants to register their interest and secure their place at what promises to be another exciting and successful show.

These developments will build upon the strong foundations established in previous years, ensuring the Tavistock Country Garden Show continues to evolve and grow as a premier event for exhibitors, traders, and visitors alike. We are looking forward to sharing further details in the coming months and welcoming everyone back for the 2027 show.

Festive Opening Times

Sunday 06th December – Miss Ivy Christmas Festival
Sunday 13th December – Pannier Market Christmas Event
Monday 14th December – Pannier Market Open
Sunday 20th December – Extra Christmas Sunday
Monday 21st December – Pannier Market Open
Christmas Eve – Pannier Market Open
Christmas Day – Closed
Boxing Day – Closed
Sunday 27th December – Closed
Monday 28th December – Closed
Tuesday 29th December – Pannier Market Open
Wednesday 30th December – Pannier Market Open
Thursday 31st December – Pannier Market Open
New Year's Day – Closed
Saturday 02nd January 2027 – Pannier Market Open
Tuesday 05th January2027 – Normal trading commences

Designated premises Supervisor.

The Town Hall has experienced no licensing issues during the reporting period. All licensing requirements continue to be met, with no concerns to report.

The Pannier Market now regularly hosts Tavistock Brewery, which sells its products on Wednesdays and Thursdays. This provides a regular presence for the brewery at the market and offers visitors the opportunity to purchase its products.

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