

**TAVISTOCK TOWN COUNCIL  
PANNIER MARKET REPORT 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE 2021**

**1. General Update**

- a) In general, the re-opening has been successful from an operational perspective, however, footfall has been low during weekdays in the town in general, with much of the customers' focus being on socialising in our outside spaces. Footfall is expected to increase as the restrictions ease, with the next key date being June 21<sup>st</sup>. First indications from the most recent unlocking date (17<sup>th</sup> May) have seen an improvement on footfall with a slight increase in visitor numbers.
- b) As previously reported, as a way of supporting the cafes, we have allowed some additional space for outside seating with the use of our marquees, all cafes have had good visitor numbers and since May 17<sup>th</sup> have provided indoor seating, with this addition it should encourage people to visit the town who have previously kept away, again first indications are fairly positive.
- c) We have had an abundance of new traders starting at the Pannier Market, and continue to receive new applications, this will prove invaluable as we ease towards a more familiar Pannier market layout in conjunction with social distancing regulations. As well as new traders we have also welcomed back some familiar stalls who were now ready to start trading once again.
- d) The two previously unoccupied Lock-Ups 4 & 5 have both now been taken on a two-year lease, they are Marilyn's Crafty Place and Made with Love, both businesses are of a craft nature and will be open from 1<sup>st</sup> June, this now sees all units occupied apart from Unit 1 which is being utilised as a temporary office space for the Market reeve.
- e) Traders have been informed of a new change in law pertaining to the use of single use carrier bags, as of May 21<sup>st</sup> all businesses must charge 10 pence for bags except where exemptions are in place, a full list of the guidance can be found on the Governments website.  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/carrier-bag-charges-retailers-responsibilities#>
- f) The Market Reeve is currently undertaking a Diploma in Market Administration, the course covers, Communications, The Law and Practical Operations, and is specific to markets, the course is delivered by NABMA (National Association of British Market Authorities) and part of continued professional development.

## **2. Coach Drivers' Initiative**

We will continue to monitor the coach industry and look at a strategy to bring coach parties to Tavistock. Our tour operator in Torbay has offered to start circulating the Coach Driver Incentive pack as of the 17<sup>th</sup> May, however if there are not sufficient coaches travelling into this area then he has offered to do this free of charge. The hope is that will see a resurgence of coaches over the summer period but much will depend on numbers going into Torbay in these unprecedented times. I have suggested a meeting with the BID Manager to discuss further in the coming weeks.

## **3. Trip Advisor**

### **Relaxing wander (Rated 4 Stars)**

*We enjoyed wandering around the Pannier Market on Saturday during a visit to Tavistock. There are a wide variety of stalls, selling everything from antiques & collectibles to fresh produce, greetings card's to clothing. It also provided shelter from the chilly weather! Worth a look!*

Date of experience: May 2021

## **4. BEDFORD SQUARE**

- a) Recent adverse weather conditions have affected some days trading on Bedford Square, however, on certain days there has still been a host of activity with a mixture of new and old traders, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays still proving the most favourable days. There is now a new sanitiser tower on Bedford Square, situated by the Town Hall main doors and supplied by Tavistock BID.
- b) One recent Farmers' Market had to be cancelled due to the heavy rain and wind, we continue to deliver the operational aspects of the Farmers' Market, with numbers still fairly low due to social distancing elements of the stall configurations, this has made it manageable, with it still being a good draw for locals and visitors, these Saturdays usually see an increase in customer footfall.

## **5. DESIGNATED PREMISES SUPERVISOR**

- a) Looking forward to when the Town Hall is once again operational, as standard practice we will look to ensure that all elements relating to the sale of alcohol are clearly stipulated to individual hirers/users to ensure absolute compliance, this will include Drugs Awareness information.

Duane Carruthers  
Market Reeve & Designated Premises Supervisor  
Tavistock Town Council  
[duane.carruthers@tavistock.gov.uk](mailto:duane.carruthers@tavistock.gov.uk)  
01822 611003