

## AGENDA ITEM 9b

**NOTES OF THE GOOSE FAIR WASH UP MEETING** held in the Council Chamber, Drake Road, Tavistock on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024** at **2.00pm**

### PRESENT

- Wayne Southall (Chairman), Tavistock Town Council, General Manager
  - Rebecca Rowe, Tavistock Town Council, Works Manager
  - Laura Harley, Tavistock Town Council Community and Compliance Officer
  - Tabitha Westlake, Tavistock Town Council Support Officer (General Manager)
  - Graham Bailey, Stagecoach
  - Cllr Barry Smith, Tavistock Town Council
  - Alan Wroath, Tavistock Lions
  - John Dawson, Tavistock Lions
- In Attendance Carl Hearn, Tavistock Town Council, Town Clerk

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Alan Jenkins, The Showmen's Guild
- Robert Kefford, The Showmen's Guild
- Liz Cole, Livestock Market
- Jenny Mashford, Devon and Cornwall Police
- Anne Marie Palmer, Devon and Cornwall Police
- Stuart Gardner, AA Signs

### 2. CONFIRMATION OF NOTES

a) Notes from 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

The Notes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

b) Matters arising

There were no matters for consideration.

### 3. FEEDBACK ON THE 2024 GOOSE FAIR

The Works Manager gave feedback on the 2024 held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 as follows:

**Waste management contract** – the Works Manager reported that the post event clean-up with the new contractors was a resounding success with members of the public witnessing no difference in service.

It was noted whilst the service contract with the new contractors had come in significantly lower than the previous providers, there had been some hidden expenditure primarily pertaining to staff costs (the Guildhall toilets had been cleaned by Tavistock Town Council staff).

**Stallholders** – a comparison between the traders in 2023 and 2024 had been undertaken and it was noted that there was a positive variation of offer available at this year's event. Although the majority of applications were from food vendors it was agreed that the types of food being sold were more varied with less of the burger style vans. The General Manager noted the food vendors were busy at all times and so there was clearly a need for the number street food outlets who attended.

There had been a number of new artisan traders as well as several who had returned having attended in previous years.

All pitch space had been sold and there was only one no show on the day. There had been five fly pitches in comparison to six in 2023.

The food and drink zone in the Alexander Centre had worked well with live music throughout the day.

**SIAs and policing** – for this year's event, three SIA were in attendance and this increase in resource had worked well. Due to the good weather it was noted alcohol sales in the Alexander Centre had started earlier. Their presence complemented the significant police resource which included a CCTV vehicle situated at Russell Street. This had acted as a deterrent and there had been no anti-social behaviour from traders, as had occurred in previous years.

**Parking** – Due to the challenges of 2023, residents of Chapel Street who used on street parking were given the option to apply for parking permits. However, residents who had off-road parking also made applications which provided further challenges. It was noted the system would be reviewed for 2025.

It was noted that people were parking on double yellow lines on Callington Road during the evening which caused issues with the traffic network.

The WDBC Brook Street multi-storey car park had closed at 8.00pm which had resulted in a number of cars being trapped inside. WDBC had advised they were unable to open their car park.

It was suggested that the Primary School could be approached to see if their car park could be used next year.

**Cattle Market** – it was reported that the cattle market had received hundreds of visitors and considered that the event had been successful. They were hoping to be able to open for Goose Fair 2025. It was noted that the Raynet marshal had been very helpful and that this had been appreciated.

**TMA, Safety Consultant** – it was noted that the use of battery powered LED lights was becoming more prevalent but because traders were not bringing generators they were also not bringing fire extinguishers. It was explained that it was important that each trader had an appropriate fire extinguisher due to the close proximity of the stalls. It was noted that newer traders were not bringing lighting for the evening.

Attendees were advised that all catering kiosks were up to date with paperwork and had fire extinguishers and blankets.

It was suggested that the Town Council provide fire extinguishers stations on the street.

**Park and Ride** – the Lions reported that the public seemed to be content with the service. At Whitchurch, where the buses could not pass each other, it was suggested that the outgoing bus reverse into the car park to await passengers. Barriers would have to be provided to protect pedestrians. At Gulworthy there

was still an issue with the entrance/exit. It was noted that the banksmen provided by Stagecoach had been very helpful.

It was suggested that a separate meeting be held between Stagecoach, Tamar Coaches and the Lions to agree operational tweaks for future years.

The Works Manager reported on the Park and Ride income.

**Other matters** – the police had made several observations both pre and post the event. A number of these were already undertaken although not specifically included within the Emergency Plan (for instance having staff who are DBS checked).

It was reported that the current three-year licence between the Showmen and WDBC had concluded in 2024.

It was noted that the fees for Park and Ride would need to be reviewed in 2025.

AA Signs were intending to recommend some revised signage for 2025.

#### **4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The management team thanked stakeholders for attending the meetings and providing feedback. The Works Manager also thanked all staff for their hard work before and during the event.

The meeting finished at 2.45pm