



Minutes of the Market Committee held in the Council Chambers, Market Hall
on Wednesday 26th March 2025 at 4.30pm

Present: Cllrs: N. Kenneally, P. Brown, I. Edwards & S. Preston.

In Attendance: Town Clerk (TC) & Market Manager (MM)

Absentees: No Absentees.

1203. Apologies for Absence

Cllr. D. De ste Croix

1204. Declaration of Interests – To received declarations of personal and prejudicial interests in respect of items on this Agenda.

Councillor N. Kenneally asked Councillors to declare any relevant interests as they arise.

The Chairman Suspended Standing Orders.

Public Open Question Time – To receive questions from the Public.

No questions were asked

1205. To hear from the elected Market Trader Representative regarding the Market.

MTR K. Brown raised the possibility of extending market hours to 3:30 PM, noting that parents collecting children from school often miss the market, except during holidays. Discussion ensued regarding the open times of the market.

There is a rumour circulating that the market will close before summer. Committee clarified that discussions about the market's future are ongoing and assured that updates will be provided. Cllr. N. Kenneally mentioned the possible need for another market consultation and will seek advice from NALC on whether this is required, as the last consultation was conducted within the past two years.

TC asked how many traders had requested extended hours. MTR responded that 9/11 in favour of extending market times to 3.30pm.

K. Brown also reported that previous conflicts within the market have subsided, and there is now minimal friction among traders.

The Chairman resumed Standing Orders

1206. Minutes of the Last Meeting – To sign Minutes of the Market Committee Meeting held on the 26th February 2025.

Councillor S. Preston proposed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 26th February 2025 be approved. This was seconded by Councillor N. Kenneally and agreed.

(3 For, 2 Abstention, 0 Against)

1207. Action Items – To consider Matters arising from the minutes of the 26th February 2025, not already covered by the Agenda. For Information Only. **(Appendix 1)**
There were no items discussion regarding the Action List there are not already covered by the Agenda.

1208. Market Accounts- To discuss the Income and Expenditure breakdown for Holsworthy Market **(Appendix 2)**

Councillors discussed the income and expenditure breakdown for Holsworthy's Market. TC noted that the finance sheet now includes a generous estimation of staffing costs relating to the Market. Discussion ensued. The committee were surprised by the additional losses not previously recorded on the income and expenditure and discussed the financial details in further detail under Agenda Item 8.

1209. To discuss and review previous years financials, current HTC staff hours and costs, market consultation and survey 2023, and to agree to any changes as a result of the discussion.

The committee were provided with financial data extending back to 2019 to current, it was noted that these financial figures were not inclusive of the HTC staffing hours. The committee also reviewed the 2023 market survey results, minutes of the Market Consultation that took place in 2023 in addition to the presentation that was shown at the Market Consultation Meeting. Discussion ensued.

The committee discussed their next steps for the future of the market and noted that any steps taken would need to be taken to Full Council. The committee discussed the market's financial sustainability, noting inconsistencies in expenses and a lack of a clear profit trend. Questions were raised about whether it must continue due to its historic charter and whether relocation or partnership with another venue was possible.

A review of survey results showed most respondents did not support subsidising the market. Market fees have remained unchanged since 2015, and there was discussion about traders contributing more towards costs.

With markets generally in decline and this being the last outdoor market in Devon, the committee acknowledged financial challenges. It was agreed that a proposal should be developed for the full council, exploring options such as relocation, seasonal operation, or hiring out gazebos.

Options for the market:

1. Continue running the market as is (Do nothing).
2. Continue running the market but increase the pricing to cover direct costs (excluding labour).
3. Continue running the market as is but increase pricing to cover all costs.
4. Relocate the market.
5. Alter the market to run seasonally and increase the pricing.

HTC will need to consult TDC regarding the future of the market prior to committing to either of the above decisions.

Councillor P. Brown proposed that an Extraordinary General Meeting is arranged for 24th April 2025 to discuss the future prospectives of the Market and discuss the market’s recommended options as stated above and be agreed. This was seconded by Councillor N. Kenneally and approved. (Unanimous)

1210. Town Clerk’s Report.

On April 30th, George and Richard will be away. TC noted that Neil and Kieran will be helping, but neither has a driving licence. MTR noted having a friend willing to assist and prepared to start at 4:30 AM on Wednesday 30th April. TC expressed concerns about them not knowing the job and the need for training. Cllr. N. Kenneally queried whether the market should be closed for the day. Discussion ensued. TC agreed to contact the individual.

1211. Close.

Councillor N. Kenneally closed the meeting at 17:23

Signed

Dated

Appendix 1: Action List

Actions from Markets on 26th February 2025

	Action	Who	Status
1. 24.07.24	To contact the new head of estates regarding the Market's Lease – Once they are in post	Office	To review with Devolution.
2. 18.12.24	To review and agree Market Times in the New Year	Committee	To await decision regarding Market's future.
3. 29.01.25	To amend the Market Barriers Sponsorship letter to include that the market barriers will be used a minimum of 30 weeks a year, weather permitting and will be used at HTC events such as Christmas Switch-on.	Office	To await decision regarding Market's future.
4. 26.02.25	To include all staffing hours relating to the market to the Markets expenditure.	Office	Completed – On agenda to review.
5. 26.02.25	Source financial data of previous years to allow the committee to compare each month's loss/profit and make an education decision on the market.	Office	Completed and on agenda to review. – Note figures do not show cost of staffing hours.

Month	Expenditure Details	Amount	Income Details	Amount		Difference	Overall
Apr-24							
04.04.24	Market Assistant	£60.00	Market takings 03.04.24	£92.00			
25.04.24	Market Assistant	£60.00	Market takings 17.04.24	£66.00			
			Market takings 24.04.24	£108.00			
		£120.00		£266.00		£146.00	£146.00
May-24							
01.05.24	Market Assistant	£240.00	Market Takings (Winder)	£44.00			
01.05.24	Welding Repairs	£405.30	Market Takings 01.05.24	£139.00			
01.05.24	Ramp to container	£90.00	Market Takings 08.05.24	£110.00			
10.05.24	Market Assistant	£60.00	Market Takings 15.05.24	£86.00			
17.05.24	Market Assistant	£30.00	Market Takings 22.05.24	£55.00			
22.05.24	Market Assistant	£30.00	Market Takings 29.05.24	£57.00			
29.05.24	Market Assistant	£30.00					
29.05.24	Market Assistant	£300.00					
29.05.24	No Parking Signage	£84.00					
		£1,269.30		£491.00		-£778.30	-£632.30
Jun-24							
07.06.24	Market Assistant	£30.00	Market Takings 05.06.24	£270.00			
14.06.24	Market Assistant	£60.00	Market Takings 12.06.24	£144.00			
14.06.24	Barriers	£746.40	Market Takings 19.06.24	£98.00			
14.06.24	Jockey Wheel	£67.63	Market Takings 26.06.24	£231.00			
17.06.24	Market Assistant	£60.00					
		£964.03		£743.00		-£221.03	-£853.33
Jul-24							
05.07.24	Hardware items	£24.00	Market Takings 03.07.24	£83.00			
11.07.24	Market Assistants	£240.00	Takings 10th & 17th July	£144.00			
26.07.24	Market Barrier storage	£100.00	Market Takings 24.07.24	£84.00			
			Market Takings 31.07.24	£268.00			
		£364.00		£579.00		£215.00	-£638.33
Aug-24							
02.08.24	Market Assistants	£420.00	Market Takings 07.08.24	£93.00			
06.08.24	Market stall sides	£2,905.00	Transfer from Earmarked Res	£2,905.00			
			Market Stall Town Band	£43.00			
			Market Takings 14.08.24	£60.00			
			Market Stall Gale	£53.00			
			Market Takings 21.08.24	£84.00			
			Market Takings 28.08.24	£71.00			
		£3,325.00		£3,309.00		-£16.00	-£654.33

Appendix Continues

Month	Expenditure Details	Amount	Income Details	Amount		Difference	Overall
Sep-24	Market Assistants	£315.00	Market Takings 04.09.24	£102.00			
	Market Barrier storage	£100.00	Market Takings 18.09.24	£249.00			
	Electricity	£10.30	Market Takings 25.09.24	£98.00			
	Market Assistants	£180.00					
		£605.30		£449.00		-£156.30	-£810.63
Oct-24	Market Assistants	£690.00	Market Takings 02.10.24	£111.00			
	Electricity	£13.68	Market Stall - Gale	£44.00			
			Market Stall - Lindley	£44.00			
			Market Stall - Cornish Crepes	£42.00			
			Market Takings October	£172.00			
		£300.00		£253.00		-£290.68	£1,101.31
Nov-24	Market Assistants	£420.00	Market Takings 06.11.24	£159.00			
	Electricity	£18.32	Market Takings 13.11.24	£73.00			
			Market Takings 20.11.24	£38.00			
			Market Takings 27.11.24	£126.00			
		£438.32		£413.00		-£25.32	£1,126.63
Dec-24	Market Assistant (NR)	£90.00	Market Takings 04.12.24	£51.00			
	Market Assistant (NR)	£30.00	Market Takings 11.12.24	£101.50			
	Market Assistant (RR)	£180.00	Market Takings 18.12.24	£51.00			
			Market Stall Gale	£49.50			
		£300		£253.00		-£47.00	£1,173.63
Jan-25							
15.01.25	Market Assist (RR)	£ 60.00	Market Takings 15.01.25	£ 88.50			
22.01.25	Market Assist(RR)	£ 60.00	Market Takings 22.01.25	£ 40.00			
		£ 120.00		£ 128.50		£ 8.50	- £1,164.50

Feb-25							
11.02.25	Electricity	£ 123.35	Market Takings 05.02.25	£ 150.00			
18.02.25	Electricity	£ 1.89	Market Takings 12.02.25	£ 73.50			
			Market Takings 19.02.25	£ 121.50			
			Market Takings 26.02.25	£ 60.00			
		£ 123.35		£ 210.00		£ 86.65	- £1,077.85
Mar-25							
04.03.25	Market Assistant -Feb (RR)	£ 240.00	Market Takings 05.03.25	£ 89.00			