

Minutes of York Market Traders Forum (YMTF) meeting

4th May 2022

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

**Present: -**

Richard Dransfield

Jana Hall

Jym Harris

Rupert Harrison

Natalie Kirrane

Clare Morris

Martin Spencer

Christian Taylor

John Taylor

Kevin Tuohy

Natalie Woodworth

**Apologies received: -**

Lee Boxall

**Absent: -**

John Mannion.

**Agenda.**

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of any interests in agenda items
3. Recent MIY/YMTF meeting
4. Proposed revised rent consultation
5. YMTF email list
6. Update on NaNA Noodles
7. Update on Hakan Otkem appeal
8. Update on YMTF- Decision to left it for the next time
9. Date and time of next meeting
10. Apologies.

Apologies received from Lee Boxall

1. Declarations of any interests in agenda items.

Rupert Harrison asks if anybody have any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in agenda items, all who attended agreed that there isn`t any.

1. Meeting with MIY.

It was agreed that the meeting with MIY went well. Kevin Tuohy expresses that the meeting went in a friendly and cooperative manner, the MIY reps came across in a positive light and Sarah Loft recognises the shortcomings from MIY part. Kevin expresses the signs of “red flag” about MIY possible intentions of making some changes in SLA (Service level agreement) as Sarah mentions that there is a thought of some changes in current SLA.

During the discussion several committee members – Kevin, Christian Taylor and Richard Dransfield suggests that we should ask MIY for their “family tree” so that current and a new traders would know with whom to get in touch in relation of different matters. Voted- 6 for, 3 against, 1 abstain.

Jym Harris suggests that we ask Karen from MIY for more structured staff list. Motion passed unanimously.

Martin Spencer suggests that committee has a meeting 1 week prior the meetings with the MIY, which would give us a time to prepare regards what we`re planning to talk about. Motion passed unanimously

1. Proposed revised rent consultation

Kevin thinks that weekend rents should be different from midweek days. Natalie disputing regards food traders having to pay higher rent on weekends, also she spoke about the fact that food traders are open and have to pay the rent every day, no matter the weather conditions.

Christian says that the food traders rent increase is fair but mentions that not all unit have same amount of power, some food traders don’t even have a water supply. He agrees with Natalie that for food sellers it does not matter if that is a weekend of mid week, as their business depends more on the weather conditions rather than which days of the week that is. Richard suggests to negotiate this with MIY. Martin says that we could suggest to increase the food trader rent gradually. Natalie thinks that food trader rents should be individual based on the traders stalls size, energy supply etc. Christian informs that food traders are going to have a meeting with Lucy from MIY on Wednesday 12th May and that food traders are having their own meeting on Monday prior the meeting with Lucy. He suggests that it would be very good if some committee members would attend the meeting with Lucy.

It was discussed that we would like to know where the rent increase money is going to go, if it will improve the current physical state of the market stalls, that rules need to be clear and enforced by the market officers, the poor stall display of some market stalls. Martin suggests that we re-schedule the meeting so we could discuss everything regards the rent increase, and agree on things before we attend the meeting with MIY.

Natalie Woodford objects to the weekend huge rent increase because food traders are open all years and their rent should be yearly, not daily.

1. Email list.

Martin suggests that we make a draft email regards the GDPR so we could gather data o it does not play against us. Rupert thinks, we could give a piece of paper with YMTF contact details to the new traders and see if they agree to give their details. Martin thinks of specific wording for this. Jym mentions Mail Chimp, but majority agrees that many traders would not be aware of it.

1. NaNa Noodles.

It was acknowledged that this is still ongoing issue. MIY have employed Public Health Protocol which said that NaNa Noodle bar don’t possess any hazards. Christian mentions Ersins approach that instead of speaking to the noodle bar about his issue, he went to the office, spoke to Joe Etheridge and who suggested to write the petition, and went to make a complaint to the Environmental Health Department. This was followed by a long debate regards what physical alternatives could be implemented by the Nana Noodle bar, if any. It was agreed that noodle bar customer queue is blocking the traffic for the fellow neighbouring trading stalls.

1. Hakan Otkem appeal.

Martin questions whether the appeal process is fit for purpose and that we should have a look at the appeal process altogether. Committee members unanimously agree that Mr Kelly could not be independent as he is employed by the MIY and therefore was in conflict of interest. It is agreed that the appeal process should be re-written. Also it was discussed that disciplinary process also should be looked at.

1. Update on YMTF committee led initiatives.

Committee agreed to postpone this matter for the meeting.

1. Next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be a Zoom meeting at 7pm on Thursday the 19th of May.