

MARKETS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, 25 September 2012

Minutes of the meeting of the Markets Committee held at Guildhall, EC2 on Tuesday, 25 September 2012 at 11.30am

Present

Members:

Hugh Morris (Chairman)	Deputy Keith Knowles
Michael Hudson (Deputy Chairman)	Anthony Llewelyn-Davies
Deputy John Bennett	Robert Merrett
John Brewster	Deputy Joyce Nash
Nigel Challis	Michael Page
John Chapman	Chris Punter
Alex Deane	Deputy Robin Sherlock
Deputy Robin Eve	Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
Deputy Bill Fraser	John Spanner
Deputy Stanley Ginsburg	Alderman Sir John Stuttard
Deputy Henry Jones	James Tumbridge

Officers:

Rakesh Hira	- Town Clerk's Department
John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Peter Lisley	- Town Clerk's Department
Mathew Lawrence	- Town Clerk's Department
Libby Grant	- Corporate HR
Andrew Buckingham	- Public Relations Office
Alan Bennetts	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Andrew Crafter	- City Surveyor's Department
Andrew Wild	- City Surveyor's Department
Debbie Howard	- Chamberlain's Department
Simon Owen	- Chamberlain's Department
David Smith	- Director of Markets & Consumer Protection
Malcolm Macleod	- Markets & Consumer Protection Department
Nigel Shepherd	- Markets & Consumer Protection Department
Donald Perry	- Markets & Consumer Protection Department
Karyn Ramsay	- Markets & Consumer Protection Department
Tom Edwards	- Markets & Consumer Protection Department
Anthony Phillips	- Field Fisher Waterhouse

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Alderman Sir Michael Savory, Mark Boleat, Deputy Stella Currie, Peter Dunphy, Deputy Pauline Halliday, Brian Harris and Michael Henderson-Begg.

2. **DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

There were no declarations.

3. **MINUTES**

The public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 4 July 2012 were approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

West Poultry Avenue

It was noted that the Deputy Chairman had pursued this matter with the Chairman of the Property Investment Board. The Deputy Chairman pointed out that consideration was being given to the possibility of repairing the tunnels under the road but no decisions had yet been taken.

4. **CHIEF OFFICER APPOINTMENT**

A report of the Town Clerk which set out the wish to involve the Chairman of the Port Health and Environmental Services Committee in the appointment of the post of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection and the Director of Open Spaces was considered.

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5. **MARKETS BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE - PERIOD 1 2012/12 (APRIL - JULY)**

A report of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection providing Members with an update on progress in achieving the objectives set out in the annual Business Plan for the 1st period in 2012/13 (April – July inclusive) was considered. The principal subjects covered in the report were:

- Daily Mail report on shoppers making savings buying fruit and vegetables from markets compared to supermarkets
- Love your Market and National Market Day
- Progress report on Markets Byelaws
- Olympic period
- Spitalfields Rain Water Harvesting
- Billingsgate Satellite unit 1 update
- Finance update

A discussion took place on the Markets Byelaws Working Party which was reviewing whether there is a need for new byelaws for Billingsgate, Smithfield and New Spitalfields Markets. The Superintendent, Billingsgate Market, Chair of the Markets Byelaws Working Party, explained that the consultation process was underway and that confirmation was awaited from the Fishmongers

Company before the consultation exercise was complete. He pointed out that Members views were invited by the Working Group to consider whether new byelaws might assist with the effective management of the Markets.

In relation to Customer Parking which had been introduced at Billingsgate Market at the start of July 2012 the Superintendent, Billingsgate Market, explained that Penalty Notices were fixed by a third party company and any net receipts from penalty notices would offset the service charge. The Director pointed out that the parking charges had been introduced at the request of the tenants.

A Member complimented the Director on a very useful and informative Report.

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6. BILLINGSGATE MODERNISATION PROJECTS

A report of the Director of Markets and Consumer Protection providing an overview on two separate capital projects which would soon be brought forward for approval by Members and set out an outline of other minor projects about to be undertaken or under consideration for the future as a means of improving and modernising the facilities at Billingsgate Market were considered.

A Member commented that the roof at Billingsgate Market was in need of particular repair and that officers should take this work forward as speedily as possible.

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7. CHRISTMAS 2012 - SMITHFIELD MARKET TRADING HOURS AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

A report of the Superintendent, Smithfield Market, seeking approval to the proposed Christmas trading and traffic arrangements for Smithfield Market was considered.

It was noted that the hours would be varied in order for the Market to open from 3:00am – 10:00am.

RESOLVED – That the Markets trading hours be varied over the following dates:

Saturday 15 December
Sunday 16 December
Saturday 22 December
Sunday 23 December
Monday 24 December
Monday 31 December

This would mean that the Market would be closed on:

Tuesday 25 December

Wednesday 26 December
Tuesday 1 January.

8. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

Markets Committee Visits

In response to a question by a Member on the early start time of the Markets Committee visits, which made it difficult for Members to get to the coach-pick up point at Guildhall or at the Market for Members living outside London; the Chairman pointed out that overnight accommodation and ad-hoc travel arrangements could be considered.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no urgent items.

10. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That under Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item Nos.	Exempt Paragraphs
11 - 15	3

11. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

The non-public minutes and summary of the meeting held on 4 July 2012 were approved as a correct record.

12. CENTRAL MARKETS - CONDENSER WATER COOLING SYSTEM - LIABILITY OF CITY FOR SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

A joint report of the Comptroller & City Solicitor and the City Surveyor was received.

13. SMITHFIELD MARKET CONDENSER WATER COOLING SYSTEM

A report of the City Surveyor was considered and agreed.

14. CONCESSIONARY PARKING AT SMITHFIELD MARKET DURING THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD 2012

A report of the Superintendent, Smithfield Market, was considered and agreed.

15. SMITHFIELD LEASES

The Director of Markets and Consumer Protection provided an oral statement on the High Court Judgement.

16. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There were no urgent items.

The meeting ended at 12.46pm

Chairman

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