

# MILNTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL

## DRAFT MINUTES OF MARKET TRADERS COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 7.00pm in Milnthorpe Catholic Church Hall

**Present** – Cllrs. Hurst, Bingham, Capasso, Hill, Mulinga, Robson, Adair, Thompson and Lachmann and Parish Clerk Paul Blackburn. Bob & Sue Grisedale also attended

### 1. Apologies for absence

- None.

### 2. Minutes of previous meeting (6th November 2023)

- **APPROVED** by the meeting as a correct record.

### 3. Matters arising from those minutes

- none.

### 4. Market Report

- had been circulated prior to the meeting and is included, below

### 5. Review of market rules

- no changes suggested.

### 6. Review of market rents

- no changes suggested.

### 7. Any other business

- An excellent discussion took place regarding the viability of markets. The change in buying habits (home delivery, Amazon, Low-cost supermarkets etc.) casts significant doubt on the future of markets. From a trader's point of view it is very difficult to make a living, and new traders are not joining the industry. It was pointed out that a growth in the number of stalls would do little as few people were attending the market.

- Bob and Sue confirmed that they would be retiring at the end of 2025

The next meeting will take place in November 2025, preceding the Parish Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm.

## MARKET REPORT YEAR TO OCTOBER 2024

1. The year sees the market still feeling the effect of the declining attendees of the previous decade, with the loss of one regular trader
2. A couple of new traders have taken pitches, and the market would benefit by the addition of more.
3. New traders are given the opportunity to test out the market free of charge.
4. There are a number of traders who attend on a monthly basis and a number of occasional visitors
5. The traders continue to govern themselves with no issues. New traders have been welcomed
6. The problem of vehicles ignoring legislation and entering The Square continues to improve following the placing of chains at the two entry points, though there is still the occasional breach.
7. The Council sees no reason to amend the rules or rates.
8. Thanks must be given to all traders who have attended the market during this year

Paul Blackburn

Parish Clerk

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024