
**DWYFOR AREA MARKETS AND FAIRS CONSULTATIVE SUB-COMMITTEE
27-01-2012**

Present: Councillors: Selwyn Griffiths, Ieuan Roberts, Sion Selwyn Roberts, Guto Rhys Tomos and Robert J. Wright.

Also present: Amlyn ab Iorwerth (Licensing Manager) and Ioan Hughes (Committee Officer).

1. ELECTION OF CHAIR

RESOLVED to elect Councillor Robert J. Wright as Chair of the sub-committee for 2011/12

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED to elect Councillor Selwyn Griffiths as Vice-chair of the sub-committee for 2011/12.

3. APOLOGIES

National Federation of Market Traders representatives, namely: Richard Turner, John Woodward and Ian Grundy

4. WELCOME

Phillip Pritchard, Market Inspector, was welcomed. He was attending his first meeting of the sub-committee.

5. MINUTES

The Chairman signed the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November, 2009, as a true record.

6. DWYFOR MARKETS AND FAIRS

- a) Submitted – the report of the Licensing Manager.
- b) The Manager elaborated upon the current fees for markets, namely:- £1.00 per front foot for each stall between June and August and 50p per front foot on every other occasion. Casual traders were paying three times these amounts. There was no recommendation to change the current fees.
- c) However, changes were suggested with the Market in Porthmadog, by abolishing the need for traders to sign and pay for the season in its entirety, even at the times when they were not present.
- ch) The Manager noted that the markets and fairs of Dwyfor continued to contribute to the local economy, but concern was expressed about the substantial reduction in the number of stalls at Criccieth Fair. A few years ago there had been close to 150 stalls in the fair, but in 2011 the total had reduced to a little over 50. He added that it was intended to advertise the fair better this year by placing posters in prominent spots a few weeks before the fairs.

- d) The Manager reported on the individual positions of the following markets and fairs:
- Pwllheli (Wednesday)
 - Porthmadog
 - Pwllheli (Sunday)
 - Criccieth Fair
 - Pwllheli Fair
- dd) With regard to fun fairs, he explained that the Licensing Unit sent tender forms annually to three companies who had shown an interest in holding fairs in the area. They would request a quote for six fairs, and the company with the highest quote would be permitted to set up a fun fair on a specific site.

Consequently, the Licensing Unit had no control of the fees received annually.

It was noted that the location of Pwllheli fair should be changed this year, and following enquiries, it was considered that the rear part of the car park on Cardiff Road would be the most suitable site. The Transportation Unit and Lidl company, that had property close to the site, accepted this.

A member noted that the opinions of nearby residents should be considered too.

- e) In response to enquiries by members, it was noted:
- That a historic arrangement was the only reason for holding the market in Porthmadog for only nine months during the year, and that this seemed acceptable in the traders' and the public's minds.
 - That stallholders were reluctant to move from their usual spot even when the markets were fairly quiet.
 - It would be difficult to change the dates of Criccieth Fair as the dates were noted as a traditional part of the stallholders' calendar.
 - That the variety of stalls seen in Dwyfor markets was encouraging, and that the visitors also praised this.
- f) The Licensing Manager further noted that the Pwllheli Sunday market, which had been running for four years, had taken its place amongst the town's weekly activities. He added that the traders were keen to delete a condition that prohibited stalls from selling hot drinks.

Furthermore, the stallholders were requesting the right to hold the market on additional dates, namely Easter Sunday and Monday, the Sunday Bank Holiday in May and also the last Sunday in October. This would be in addition to the current season, which ran from June until the end of September.

It was noted that permission from the Transportation Unit would be necessary before confirming this.

RESOLVED:

- a) **That the current fees for market stalls, namely: £1.00 per front foot for each stall between June and August and 50p per front foot on every other occasion, with casual traders paying three times these amounts, stay the same without any change for 2012;**

- b) That the fees for stalls at Criccieth Fair, namely £5 for the first three metres, and £5 for every additional metre, stay the same without any change for 2012;**
- c) To abolish the current procedure in Porthmadog Market where traders are required to sign and pay for the season in its entirety;**
- ch) That a new procedure is introduced in Porthmadog Market, namely that traders sign for the entire season in order to guard their pitch, but that they will not be required to pay when they are not present during April, November and December;**
- d) That a condition which prohibits having stalls sell hot drinks at the Pwllheli Sunday Market remains in force;**
- dd) That Pwllheli Fair is held in the rear part of the car park on Cardiff Road in 2012;**
- d) To support an application to hold the Pwllheli Sunday Market on the following additional dates: Easter Sunday and Monday, both bank holidays in May, and the last Sunday in October.**

The meeting commenced at 2.15pm and concluded at 3pm