

Date: 21 June 2018

Brownhills Markets Petition

Ward(s) All

Portfolio:

Councillor Bird – Leader of the Council

Councillor Andrews – Deputy Leader and Regeneration

Councillor Harrison – Clean and Green

Executive Summary :

Previously Brownhills market was re-launched by the Council in September 2009 and operated on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Subsequently it closed again twelve months later in the summer of 2010 because it was attracting no traders and costing the Council circa £1,100 a week (£57k per annum) to operate in relation to staff time, rates, electricity, water, cleansing etc.

Following the closure a procurement exercise was undertaken by the Council to determine an appetite for interested parties to operate a market in Brownhills. LSD Promotions Ltd was granted a licence to run the market on Thursdays and Saturdays from November 2010.

Under the licence agreement with the Council the operator would only start to pay a fee to the authority after the first six months. Unfortunately the operator pulled out of the market after six months as they were not attracting traders or customers and therefore it was not a commercially viable venture. No fee was paid to the Council at the time.

The previous market location along Silver Street has been sold to developers for housing to which the site is currently being developed.

Reason for scrutiny:

A petition has been received containing a total of 927 signatures for consideration to bring back Brownhills Market.

Recommendation

That, the Committee are recommended to consider the provision of a market at Brownhills

Background papers

Petition received 22 March 2018 – 257 signatures

Citizen impact

None identified at this stage

Environmental impact

None identified at this stage

Performance management

None identified at this stage

Equality Implications

None identified at this stage

Consultation

None identified at this stage

Contact Officers:

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