

Overview and Scrutiny Board Meeting

Bromsgrove District Council

23rd November 2020

Bromsgrove Market Update

Briefing Note

- Bromsgrove Market was closed during the Covid 19 lockdown and like all businesses was financially impacted, however upon its reopening on 2nd June, the traders were supported by the Council during lockdown with discounted rents and the addition of the Government Discretionary Business Grant Scheme.
- Regular traders were offered support up to July 14th 2020 in order to give them time to access the Government Discretionary Business Grant Scheme. The above support along with our proactive partnership with market traders, have worked very well in not only supporting our current regular and casual traders but also by encouraging new traders from other markets to consider using Bromsgrove Market as an alternative option in where to trade.
- Ahead of re-opening in June, our market procedures and risk assessments were reviewed and updated in partnership with our Health & Safety officer. All Government guidelines were followed with support from WRS, to ensure that Bromsgrove Market could re-open and continue safely.
- During October we relaunched the Bromsgrove Better Markets branding by having new canopies/sheets for the existing gazebos which will improve the appearance of the market and better protect traders from the weather and hopefully encourage new traders.
- Improvement works on the Market power supplies in the High Street also commenced this year – this included an inspection of all underground sockets to ensure they were safe and in working order. Sockets deemed unsafe have been decommissioned until further repair works can be carried out.

November Lockdown

- Another lockdown has been announced for November and rather than completely shutting down the Market (some authorities have), it was decided we should support those traders that can continue to trade. During this period we have reduced rents once again and are hopeful the government scheme will continue as before for those who cannot trade. We continue to follow the Govt Guidelines with the support from WRS