

Item 4
Rugeley Market / Artisan Market

Background

Staff and Cllrs from Community Engagement Committee have been engaged in discussions around the weekly markets in town and the monthly artisan market. CCDC who have offered to pass control of the weekly Thursday Market Charter to the Town Council to manage. They are aware of negative PR with Rugeley and the viewpoint that Cannock seems to benefit from everything, and feel that this is something which would work better if it is managed by us.

The current market licensee is not renewing his contract. The 'Right to hold a market in Rugeley' stipulates that there must be a Market on a Thursday in Market Square.

Bescot Promotions have been approached to see if they would take on the Thursday market, and also take on responsibility for the Artisan Market on the first Saturday of each month.

Bescot come with glowing references and an excellent track record.

For Consideration

Cllrs are asked to consider taking on the license for an initial 2 year period on the proviso that Bescot promotions run a weekly Thursday and monthly Saturday markets along the following lines:

- Bescot will source traders, administrate, and manage the Thursday general market in Market Square with a view to growing it and raising its profile. This will not be able to commence until the end of August.
- As part of that agreement, Bescot will manage the Artisan Market – but retain the current cost to traders and follow our rules that no more than 2/3 stalls are present who sell similar products, but they will prioritise our regular traders on that day, and add to their number from their vast database of traders.
- Should Bescot find that the Saturday Market is successful, they will also look at the possibility of holding regular general markets on a Saturday also.
- They will trial the Artisan Market for us on Saturday 5th August.