

## Notes from Dronfield 2gether online meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Present:** Nigel Hudson (Treasurer), Shelley Hinson (Coordinator), Jenny Barber, Tim Peacock, Tony Bethell, Barry Jex, Alison Evans, Michael Cracknell (from Dronfield Business Group + Dronfield Wellbeing Group), Andrew Bunn (a start-up business advisor), Jayne Spanier (Utilities Warehouse/stallholder), Debbie Fennell (Derbyshire Voluntary Action – Social Connectedness Development Worker), Martyn Handley (from N.E. Derbyshire Economic Development Team), Richard Jackson & Gerry Allerston (both of whom have many years' experience in market management), Angela Loble (Citizens Advice Bureau), Kerry Lauder (Physiotherapist).

**Apologies:** Jill Bethell, Jo Bowman, and Louise Hall.

**Dronfield 2gether message:** "How can we work together to benefit the residents of Dronfield and create a healthier, happier town?"

- **Introduction** – Everyone introduced themselves.
- **Dronfield Market** – Shelley mentioned an email we have received from Gareth Harper from the N.E. Derbyshire Estates Team. They need answers to some questions before they can proceed to get permission to use the back car park. i.e. Is it the intention of your group to manage and run the market, and would it be on a commercial basis? After some discussion, the general answer we agreed on was that we need to get together a management group, and Andrew said we need a 'market manager' (who is 'tech. savvy' and good at doing promotions), and that although the market itself will be run on a 'not-for profit' basis, the stalls will be commercial stalls.
- The next question we asked was "who should hold the licence?" We were told that the Dronfield Town Council held the licence in the past. Our understanding is that the licence holder needs to have public liability insurance. Richard suggested that we ask the Parish Council or the Dronfield Town Council if they will take the licence on, and that they may be able to 'piggy-back' the insurance they have for other things. They will need to be convinced that it will be financially viable.
- We spoke about the importance of having a Management plan/Business plan, which mentions the costs and we would need to work out how many stalls we would need to cover our costs. Gerry, Michael and Andrew have offered to help with putting this plan together.
- Michael suggested that we need some engagement from the community and we need to ask what the community want to see 'stall-wise'. The voice of the community has got to be involved. Andrew has offered to help with spreading the word about the market on their Sheffield Business Network, and he said he could tag-in some bakeries. If we can get Mike Firth to do a follow-up article about the market, that would help us.
- It was mentioned that we may not be able to work out all the finer details/issues until they start trading, and even then, these might need to change.
- Jayne mentioned that any food stalls would have to have a current health & safety certificate.

- We spoke about the cost of 'rent' per stall. Gerry said that Chesterfield market were charging £30 per stall, per day, but it has been reduced to £10, for a 12' x 6' table. Michael said that the Dronfield stall holders were paying £4 or £5 per table in the end.
- **N.B. The market cannot go ahead if we are still in Tier 4.**

### Action plan for market

1. We need a market manager who is technically minded and good at doing promotions. Shelley will ask the council if some funding can be found for this role.
2. At the same time, Shelley will also ask the council if they can take on the licence and the insurance. They offered to give us £500, but the insurance in 2019 was £880.
3. We need a management team – retired businessmen? Perhaps Gerry could ask the Probus Group if they know of anyone who might enjoy taking on this voluntary work.
4. Michael, Andrew and Gerry have said they can help Shelley put together a business plan. This needs to be done asap. We need to work out how many stalls we need to cover the costs.
5. Andrew is going to spread the word on his Sheffield Business Network, and tag-in some bakeries to see if we can get the bread/cake stall we need.
6. We still need permission to use the back car park at the Civic Centre. Shelley will reply to Gareth Harper's email and give him the information he needs so that he can consult with the other departments necessary to get this permission.
7. Shelley to ask Mike Firth if he can do a follow-up article about the market.
8. Can the Dronfield 2gether Champions help with spreading the word about the new market online, to begin to capture the residents' interest and engagement. Shelley will send them an email and will also ask them what stalls they would like to see at this new market.

- **A talk by Debbie Fennell** (Social Connectedness Development Worker). She supports health & social care charities. She helps the people to help the people. Helping with social isolation. Most of us are feeling socially isolated at the moment, but people have been pulling together and looking after each other. The 'Feeling Connected in N.E. Derbyshire & Chesterfield' project supports small groups. They are here to help and there is a little bit of funding available (and they are aware of other pots of funding available). They can also support people who are digitally challenged (providing a 'tech buddy'). So, please contact them if you think your group could benefit. Debbie said "it's about tailoring their support". Email: [Debbie@dva.org.uk](mailto:Debbie@dva.org.uk) Tel No. 07547 342251.
- **A talk by Gerry Allerston about the Probus Group.** It is a group for retired professional businessmen. They are now making their lectures open to anyone, and you can join for free for the next three months.
- **Tim asked if we had heard anything about the Social Prescribers.** Debbie said that some social prescribers were working through the Derbyshire Voluntary Action organisation. They are going through training at the moment. They are attached to doctors' surgeries. Once they are trained up and in place in their

roles, the doctors can then refer some patients to them who may need to get out more on a social basis.

**A huge thank you to all the participants who took time out to join in and to help and support us. We are so grateful.**

**An emergency Market Meeting has been scheduled for the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January at 10.30am, to be followed by the Dronfield 2gether Annual General Meeting.**

The next official Dronfield 2gether meeting will be on the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 2021.