

Community, Leisure & Recreation Committee

Date:	20 October 2020
Title:	Themed Markets
Contact Officer:	Cassie Pinnells, Acting Town Clerk

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide background for a decision with regard to themed markets in 2021.

Background

2. This report is in preparation for the 2021 town centre event calendar. The French and World Village Markets have been considered successful in attracting visitors to Thame and with making the town distinctive by promoting the market town image, increasing footfall and contributing to the local business economy within the town centre.
3. It should be noted that both the 2020 themed markets were canceled due to the pandemic. These markets will be subject to Government Guidelines and Covid safe restrictions.

Proposal

4. It is proposed that a French Market and World Village Market are held and located around the Town Hall during 2021. Dates for visiting will be negotiated in January 2021, however in previous years dates for holding the markets are as follows. The World Village Market over three days in April and a two day French Market, during October ensuring dates do not clash with any other town event.
5. Each market would normally consist of 16 to 20 stalls arranged around the Town Hall. Operational discussions would take place to reduce of stalls attending to aid businesses opposite the Town Hall who require a queuing system for social distancing. The Themed Markets will require a road closure to be taken out by the Town Council. All other arrangements will be managed by the company organising the market, including the removal of all waste.

Risk Assessment

6. A full risk assessment and event management plan will be produced at the time of requesting a road closure to ensure all Covid safe mitigations are included.

Resource Appraisal

7. A fee comparable with the Tuesday market has been negotiated which will include the use of the external electricity points, with a slight reduction to cover three days continuous trading. Staff time and the road closure administration will be met through existing budget allocations.

Legal Powers:

- The Food Act 1984 part III

Recommendation:

The Committee is asked:

- i) **To approve holding two Themed Markets in 2021**