



## Report to Town Council

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Saturday market</b>
<b>From:</b>	<b>LW</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>18/10/2024</b>
<b>For information only</b>	
<b>Summary of decisions or actions requested (including timing):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• change of name to Saturday market</li><li>• support for continuation of market in 2025</li></ul>	
<b>Financial implications:</b> £100 in next year's budget Support for Christmas Market (already agreed)	
<b>Communications:</b>	

### **Background:**

The Charlbury weekly market was set up in early 2023 with the following vision:

**Charlbury Market is a local food market held on Saturday mornings, with a small collection of stalls selling locally grown and locally prepared food.**

**It supports local businesses; enabling people to buy a range of locally produced good-quality food in one place; bringing more footfall to the town centre on a regular basis; creating a friendly, social and accessible event.**

Last year (2023) was its first year and it was successful in meeting this vision with several stalls present each week and a small but willing group of volunteers helping with the set up/take down and offering support to stallholders if required. The clerk undertook the admin.

The market does not run on the days that the Thames Valley Farmers Market is on (twice during its season)

Charlbury Community Centre directly invoices the businesses for their stalls as the market takes place on their land.

A Christmas market was held last December. This was opened up to crafts as well as food. It was an extremely successful market with all stall holders very pleased with their sales.

### **This year:**

The market finished for this season on 19<sup>th</sup> October.

Over the season there have been changes to how the market operates:

- Volunteers requested the name to be changed to Charlbury Saturday market. This differentiates it from the Thames Valley Farmers Market.
- Styan Family Produce continue weekly (and will continue again through the winter separately from the TC run market). This is agreed with the Community Centre.
- Fewer local businesses were able to staff a stall regularly resulting in a core market of two stalls (bakery and fruit & veg) with 'guest' stalls coming when they are able.
- The team of volunteers, led by Angela Gwatkin, have taken on the running of the bakery stall. They buy in produce from Missing Bean Bakery. All profits are being donated to local charities/good causes. Each week the bakery stall has either sold out or nearly sold out. This is becoming a regular feature in Charlbury along with the fruit and veg stall.
- £1800 profit has been made this year which is being donated to Cornerstone, CRAG and Charlbury Wildlife Society

The Christmas market is booked for 21<sup>st</sup> December in the Memorial Hall. It has already been agreed by the TC to cover the cost of the hall hire enabling small, local businesses to attend for free.

Currently 19 out of 20 stalls spaces have been booked.

### **Recommendations:**

- **Officially accept name change to Charlbury Saturday market**
- **Agree to continue market next year (May to October 2025)**
- **Agree to hold and fund the hall hire for a Christmas market in 2025**