

Dorchester Town Council

Dorchester Markets Informal Joint Panel

7th October 2026

Present: Councillors: P. Dickenson, K. Reid, M. Rennie, and R. Tarr.

Officers: Charmaine Denny (Town Clerk - DTC), Graham Duggan (Head of Regulatory Services - DC), Daryl Chambers (Markets Officer – DTC), Marc Sweeney (Markets Officer – DTC) and Keira Lake (Finance Assistant - DTC)

Apologies: Were received from Cllr S. Jones and Cllr S. Williams

13. Declaration of Interests

No declarations of interest were declared.

14. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Markets Informal Joint Panel held on 5th August 2026, were confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

15. Markets Operation Update

Members considered a report by the Markets Officer which updated the panel on works that Dorset council have undertaken or are undertaking onsite.

It was detailed how a number of companies have been appointed to undertake various health and safety tasks.

The Markets officer detailed information regarding proposed signage for the doorway to the covered market.

Issues regarding fly tipping were discussed.

Resolved

Proposer: Cllr R. Tarr

Seconder: Cllr K. Reid

It was unanimously agreed that the panel agree for officers to purchase and install additional signage for the indoor market, as detailed within the report, at a cost of £1,600. Costs to be met from the Market Panel budget.

16. Assessment of Car Boot Fund grant applications

The Town Clerk introduced a report and detailed how the Car Boot grant fund applications were now live; the closing date being 1st November 2026.

In previous years the applications have been assessed by a small group of members. It was suggested that all six members meet for an informal panel meeting to assess the 2026 applications and then report back to the formal meeting of the panel in December.

Resolved

Proposer: Cllr P. Dickenson

Seconder: Cllr K. Reid

It was unanimously agreed that the applications to the Dorchester Markets Car boot Grant scheme are assessed at an informal meeting of the Dorchester Markets Joint Panel in November 2026 and that the recommendations of this informal meeting are reported to the formal panel meeting on the 2nd December for consideration.

17. 2026 – 27 Financial Update

The Panel had before it a report presented by Keira Lake which gave the financial position of the Markets to the end of September 2026.

Resolved

Proposer: Cllr R. Tarr

Seconder: Cllr P. Dickenson

Members of the Panel unanimously noted the current financial position as at the end of September 2026.

Chair.....