

Market Traders
c/o Festival Market
Central Drive
Morecambe
LA4 4DW

12th January 2010

Mr D Hopwood
Parking Manager
Lancaster City Council
Town Hall
Morecambe

Dear Sir

We the undersigned, all Market Traders at the Festival Market, Central Drive, Morecambe wish to make an appeal to the cabinet members of Lancaster City Council. Sadly the country wide recession has hit the traders of the Festival Market hard – we currently have 7 vacant stalls on the Market – the worst position we have been in here since our move from Poulton Square in 1996. As business owners on stalls rented from Lancaster City Council we would wish to turn this situation around and encourage shoppers to shop in their local market and keep traders trading at the market.

We feel the Festival Market suffered a number of blows even before the recession started - since Wm Morrisons Supermarket withdrew all-day free parking in favour of 2 hours of free parking, many of its customers who used to park their cars and shop there and then visit our market (for free) are now restricted to two hours free parking and they no longer have enough time to browse our market without the danger of incurring a penalty. B & M Bargains who have taken over the old Woolworth's site immediately to the rear of the Festival Market have also had an impact on our trade. They are an aggressive retail outlet which sells many of the commodity lines sold by we the Market Traders of the Festival Market, though without the personal touch and specialist knowledge in each field.

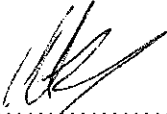
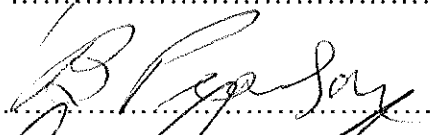
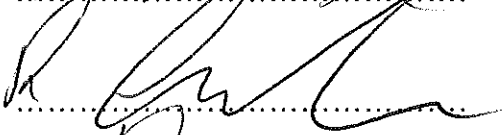

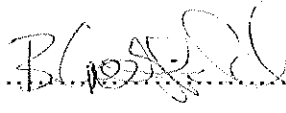
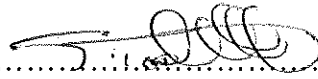


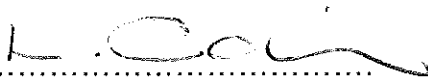

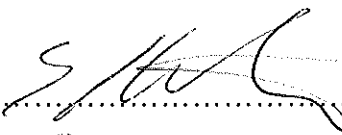
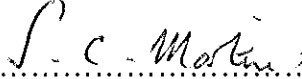
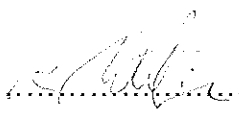

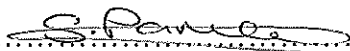
We feel something needs to be done to help us to compete in the current economic climate and would ask you to please consider the following options:-

- An hours free parking for short term shoppers would encourage customers to chose to shop here instead of at the Supermarkets (we are aware that Oldham Council has given similar concessions to boost trade and we would welcome a similar approach) This may be difficult to patrol but it could be utilised for a set period of time for example 9.30 am until 10.30 am and/or 4.00 pm until 5.00 pm.
- Possibility of free parking for Market Traders – easily implemented via a windscreen sign
- A re-think of charges during the lean Winter months – in particular Jan to March – perhaps consideration given to differing charges during the week when the Market is much quieter?

We appreciate that implementing such changes would need forethought and organisation but urge you to look at this case with sympathy and urgency in order that we secure the future of Morecambe's Market and the livelihoods of those who trade from it.

CC DAVID HOPWOOD
CC TRACEY BRUCE

LETTER TO CABINET – SIGNED BY FOLLOWING FESTIVAL MARKET TRADERS

1/30 28/29	R Laird	
2/3	B Pearson	
4/5 / 27	R Gardiner	
6/7	A Wearing	
8/9	B Greenfield	
10/11	S Tootell	
12	S Bell	
13/14/15	L Heathcote	
17	Cain	
19	S Brown	
18	L Firth	
20	S Ashton	
21	Stuart Martin	
22/23	K Austin	
24	C Abbott	
25	S Parveen	

26	D Lewis	<i>D. Lewis</i>
33/55/56	M Walsh	<i>M. Walsh</i>
34/35	Atkinson	<i>J. Atkinson</i>
36/37	J Grayston	<i>J. Grayston</i>
38/39	P Kay	<i>P. Kay</i>
40/41	T Harrison	<i>T. Harrison</i>
46/69	T Harrison Jnr	<i>T. Harrison Jnr</i>
43/44	S Kay	<i>S. Kay</i>
47/48	J Kennedy	<i>J. Kennedy</i>
49	I Walsh	<i>I. Walsh</i>
50	L Roe	<i>L. Roe</i>
51	D Cropper	<i>J. Lawson / D. Cropper</i>
58	S Smith	<i>S. Smith</i>
61/62	J Dobson	<i>J. Dobson</i>
63/64/53	I Starkie	<i>I. Starkie</i>
65	H Hind	<i>H. Hind</i>
67/68	C Obi	<i>C. Obi</i>

70/93 B Whalley pp. B. Whalley

71/72 M Coop M. Coop

73/66 L Townley L. Townley

75/76 D Parker

77/78 J Chuck J. Chuck

79 P Blackburn P. Blackburn

80 Z Raistrick Z. Raistrick

81/82 A & J Carr

83/84 R Hodgson

85/86 K Kirk K. Kirk

87 H Dickson H. Dickson

90/91/92 N Ahmed N. Ahmed

SHOPS

Shop 1 D Kennedy D. Kennedy

Shops 2/3 D Kennedy D. Kennedy

Shop 4/5 T Pearson T. Pearson

Shop 6 D McKean

D McKean

Shop 7/8 C Abbott

C Abbott

Shop 9/10 R Cragg

R Cragg

Shop 11 B'O'Mally

B O'Mally

Shop 12/13 A Greenhalgh

A Greenhalgh

Shop 14/15 P Diver

P Diver

shop 52 A. Whittingham *A. Whittingham*