

	Meeting (No)	Market & Town Hall Committee (5)
	Date	13th February 2024
	Document	Ref No
	Gazebo insurance implications	MTH5/65

Background

The sale of gazebos to traders and community groups took place in 2020. Neston Town Council retained ownership of 2 Double and 4 single gazebos for use by NTC and invited charities/entertainment etc.. This was causing issues with attracting new traders to the market who did not yet own their own gazebo.

At the meeting on 22.9.22 it was agreed as follows:

43 Market gazebos

- a **RESOLVED** to approve the hire of NTC gazebos to new traders as detailed in report MTH3/43.

However, this still did not resolve the issue of being able to attract new traders and the number of gazebos available to hire was restricted.

At the meeting on 26.9.23 the proposal to buy back gazebos from traders who left the market was discussed.

26 Gazebos

The Committee discussed the proposal and requested that the Corporate Support and Facilities Officer speak to the RFO to assess the insurance implications of retaining ownership of any Neston Town Council gazebos bought back from any trader who leaves the market, to hire to new traders, as detailed in the Market Traders Licence Terms and Conditions, or for repairs to existing gazebos. A report was requested for the next scheduled meeting.

RESOLVED in the meantime to give delegated authority to the Corporate Support and Facilities Officer to buy back any gazebos that become available in consultation with the Chair or Deputy Chair.

Following this, from agenda item 45 of the Market & Town Hall committee meeting on 21.11.23

RESOLVED to receive the Corporate Support and Facilities Officer's Report.

It was noted that a report regarding the insurance implications of retaining ownership of any Neston Town Council gazebos bought back from traders, would be taken to the next scheduled meeting. The Corporate Support & Facilities Officer explained that the RFO had already started to look into this and officers would arrange a meeting to assess the situation.

Since the meeting in September NTC has retained ownership of an additional 6 single gazebos.

To date this has enabled us to attract 3 new permanent traders to the market, with several more new traders now hiring the gazebos with an interest in joining our market.

Insurance implications

On 16th January 2024, the Corporate Support & Facilities Officer met with both the RFO and the Locum Chief Officer to establish the current gazebo ownership situation before the updated figures and Council's position could be fed back to the Council's insurance provider. An additional 2 doubles and 9 single gazebos have been added to the policy for the annual cost of £67.66 for 2024/25. This ensures that the Council is covered for the replacement value, in case of damage, which is new for old. This is in addition to the original 6 market stalls which are already on the schedule. Council approved the uplift in price at its budget meeting on 23rd January 2024.

The RFO will be kept up to date with any additional gazebos purchased, or sold to traders, so that insurance requirements can be updated as necessary.

Nicky McMahon

Corporate Support & Facilities Officer