

# DECISION ITEM

REPORT OF	MEETING	DATE	ITEM NO
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE	TOURISM AND LEISURE COMMITTEE	6 SEPTEMBER 2018	6
LYTHAM FAIRGROUND			

## PUBLIC ITEM

This item is for consideration in the public part of the meeting.

## SUMMARY

The report outlines the negotiations and background to the siting of the fairground for the 2018 Lytham Club Day weekend and seeks a decision from the committee as to whether it wishes to grant a licence for it to continue in the same location until the land at the Triangle is available again.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the committee decides whether or not to grant a licence to S J Cubbins Limited to operate a fairground as part of Lytham Club Day celebrations on Lytham Green in the location as shown in appendix 1 until the land at the Triangle is available again.

## SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS

None

## CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Spending your money in the most efficient way to achieve excellent services ( <b>Value for Money</b> )	✓
Delivering the services that customers expect of an excellent council ( <b>Clean and Green</b> )	✓
Working with all partners ( <b>Vibrant Economy</b> )	✓
To make sure Fylde continues to be one of the most desirable places to live ( <b>A Great Place to Live</b> )	✓
Promoting Fylde as a great destination to visit ( <b>A Great Place to Visit</b> )	✓

## REPORT

### BACKGROUND

1. A licence has previously been granted by the council to S J Cubbins Limited for a fairground to take place as part of the Lytham Club Day weekend on land known as Lytham Triangle, Fairlawn Road. The licence has usually been for a period of 3 years which has then been renewed with an updated licence fee in accordance with the delegated officer powers within the constitution.
2. As part of planning for the commencement of the coast defence works at Church Scar and Fairhaven, the Triangle was identified as the most suitable location for the contractor's compound. The fairground operator was advised in 2016 of the likelihood of the Triangle being unavailable and as a result the 3 year fairground licence which expired in 2016 was only extended for one year for 2017. Following confirmation of the contractor compound at the Triangle the fairground operator was informed in September 2017 that the Triangle would not be available from 2018 and he was advised to locate another site for the fairground.

3. In March 2018 the fairground operator contacted the council to enquire if another council owned site in Lytham was available for this year's use, with the preferred site being Lytham Green. The sections of the Green used for the 1940's weekend and Lytham Festival were ruled out because they were already licensed and potential reinstatement works would not allow time for the Green to recover. This triggered concern and debate amongst Lytham residents that the fairground may not be held during the Club Day weekend celebrations.
4. However, the fairground operator continued to work with the council to identify alternative locations in the town or on the Green. After ruling out a number of alternative sites in Lytham sections of the Green that are not used for other major events were considered after the operator expressed his desire to remain on council land having worked successfully with the council for many years. Following subsequent discussions with the council's Estate Manager, the fairground operator was able to agree new layouts for the rides and associated equipment to safely locate the fairground on the section of Green between the Windmill and Jubilee House (see plan at appendix 1).
5. In the lead up to the event in June notification was posted to all residents that lived opposite the site agreed to locate the fairground. This notification resulted in some concern being raised with officers and ward members over the anticipated impact of the fairground in this location. These concerns included increased noise, litter, disorder, drunkenness, theft, etc.
6. The fairground set up on site on 18<sup>th</sup> June, and opened for operation between Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June in accordance with the agreement. The fairground was then dismantled and the site cleared by 26<sup>th</sup> June. There were no complaints received whilst the fairground was on site and almost all comments received were positive and favourable. Some comments were however received in respect of live fish being used as prizes on the fairground. This has been raised with the fairground operator who has agreed not to use live fish as prizes in future.
7. It is likely that the Triangle will be required by the coast defence contractor VBA until mid-2020. After that the site will be fully reinstated and will take time to fully recover before it can be used by the fairground again. The fairground operator feels the new location has worked well supported by the positive feedback and has asked for this to be granted again in 2019 and until the Triangle is available to use again.
8. The council's Constitution delegates authority to the Director of Development Service to grant leases/licences for use of land for a period of up to 7 years. This delegation is usually only exercised in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Tourism and Leisure Committee. Given the significant public interest witnessed when there was concern that the fairground may not have a location for Club Day it is recommended that the Director does not exercise his delegated authority and instead seeks a decision from the Tourism and Leisure Committee.

IMPLICATIONS	
Finance	Should the committee agree to the siting of a fairground for 2019 a licence fee of £2,500 would be payable to the Council by the fairground operator.
Legal	An agreement would be entered into with the fairground operator for any approved use of council land.
Community Safety	None
Human Rights and Equalities	None
Sustainability and Environmental Impact	None
Health & Safety and Risk Management	None

LEAD AUTHOR	CONTACT DETAILS	DATE
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Attached documents

Appendix 1 – Location of Lytham fairground in 2018