

AGM Market Feedback Report 2018

7 markets so far. 2 of which organised on behalf of event organiser, Boxmoor Fishery Wharf Café and Aylesbury with the council. Other markets, Cassiobury Park, Great Heywood, Berkhamsted, Market Drayton, Milton Keynes.

Feedback forms reasonably well supported with approx half of market traders submitting feedback.

General suggestions

Bill Cassiobury in June as a Midsummer floating market for better footfall, Easter at end of March was too early.

Market Leaders need an assistant to man their stall or go along market each day to check everyone ok. Need to be in the area a week early. Organise a get together at the end of market. Buddy up new traders with an experienced one for help and feeling of inclusion. This now goes out with the instructions.

Posters and direction signs have now been made available to all traders to print out if required. Use someone with local knowledge for positioning.

Try to encourage a food boat to each market.

Bank Holiday Monday weekends, no Friday trading please, Generally a waste of time and energy.

Suggest ML's have hazard warning tape for use.

Take a support person if any non-booked boats are trading in case they are confrontational, especially if not a licensed trader.

Advertising on local websites etc is working well in conjunction with fb.

Great events - very friendly, happy, and generally positive.

Messenger

Very helpful way of keeping in touch and getting to know all the traders for each market. Great for teamwork. Was being used for too much chit-chat, we've requested reduce that to a minimum. Much better.

Venue

These seemed be mainly fine.

Great Heywood, place the market above the lock would be better, no split and more boat spaces.

There is a major problem in Berkhamsted with a 3 boat Waitrose shopping mooring stretch in the middle, creating a negative gap in the centre. Ronni in negotiation.

Boxmoor was booked under a different system by setting up a Fb response for traders available in the area, as the wharf café organiser had left it all a bit late.

Milton Keynes was a new venue, this needs more publicity next year and the postcode needs adjusting as the residential road nearby is too new to give an accurate one. MK15 0DL is the correct side of the canal. Perhaps direct people to Campbell Park and over the canal turn, left instead.

Aylesbury was new to rcta. Very well received by Council whose event it was, asked us to book boat traders. Council only advertised as one day (Sat) RCTA advertised 3 days Fri to Sun. Needs consistency for next year to improve footfall either side of Sat.

Words of Wisdom

Market Lead best if not a sole trader, difficult to get away to check everyone ok.

Decision regarding trading or not in inclement weather must be taken for the whole market and committee facebook organiser advised so can be advertised.

Booking for markets, current system has some criticism. Too much of a rush, dependant on internet, first come first booked. Can't improve on that to make it fair to all. Suggestion to offer to previous traders first, leaves us open to making markets cliquey and same traders at each.

Enlist the help of a boater that knows the area for setting up and moorings.

Make sure every volunteer feels they have the support they need, messenger group helps with this.