

Mill Road Winter Fair 2019 - AGM

Safety Report

Positives

Another successful event without any serious issues. There were no lost children, accidents, or unruly behaviour. First Aid treated just one minor incident.

Committee was a strong team this year and volunteers great.

MRWF continue to take seriously and develop their safety management. Generally, there is good management of their own activities, though scope for further improvement.

Emergency Services, particularly Fire Services were concerned prior to the even about congestion and their ability to reach certain areas. Other than one particular incident, crowding was not too great and manageable.

Areas for improvement

Traders who operate beyond the control, and sometimes against the wishes of MRWF, continue to create safety concerns. MRWF currently works closely with the Council, SAG and Emergency Services to address these and the presence of Environmental Health and Enforcement Officers on the day was valued. Such relationships and support should be developed further, with clearer messages to shop keepers in advance:

Particular problems with pitches/entertainment outside shops causing issues included:

- Local shopkeepers appear to think that they have right to put up stalls or sublet the footpath outside their premises, even though it not always their property.
- Stalls setting up before the start of the road closure
- Stalls entirely blocking the pavement (a min 1.5 walkway is recommended throughout Mill Rd).
- Entertainment outside 72 Mill Rd (Piero's) caused overcrowding.
- Food hygiene. It is understood that Environmental Health found a large number of problems with catering stalls outside shops. The Fair is awaiting their feedback.

Whilst efforts to improve waste management were introduced, bins still overflowed. Waste management shall need further review for next year.

Professional security/stewards at current level should be maintained, but consider a new company.

Suggest 3 quotes are obtained from Traffic Management companies to ensure a competitive price.

Eddie Barcan
Splendid Events

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