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PRESS RELEASE

TOWN'S FOOD MARKET TRADERS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

A food only market is reopening in the Town's Hockliffe Street (Library) car park this Saturday 16 May, 8am to 12noon on a temporary basis.

The reopening is facilitated through joint Town and Central Bedfordshire Council collaboration. This Saturday, 6 of the regular food traders will be set up in the car park with other traders planning to attend in the future for the regular trading days of Saturday and Tuesday.

The food only market will be monitored in readiness for re-locating back into the High Street when the right conditions are in place to ensure its safe delivery. Until further Government announcements, the market will continue as a food only market.

Opening the market is a mark of support from both Councils and ensures the market continues to have a presence in the town.

Safe distancing rules remain a priority. Social distancing will be enforced in line with the current government guidelines. All traders were asked to submit their plans on how they propose to manage their stalls. There has been a lot of planning to achieve this result to ensure the utmost safety for the public, our traders, and staff.

Customers are encouraged to walk to the market if they can. Due to the presence of the market, a large section of the area will be cordoned off limiting available parking spaces with permit holders being given priority, as necessary. The remaining car parking spaces will be open and chargeable; pay and display. Central Bedfordshire Council recommend people use the payment app for paying the fee to limit the need to touch the machines.

If you intend to visit the food market, please ensure that you wash your hands thoroughly before leaving home and as soon as you return home. We also ask you to respect social distancing once you arrive at the market. If you are showing coronavirus

symptoms, or if you or any of your household are self-isolating, you should stay at home
- this is critical to staying safe and saving lives.

END

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