

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting date: THURSDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2024
Title: RIBBLE VALLEY TASTE FEST & CLITHEROE FOOD FESTIVAL
Submitted by: DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
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1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide an update on Ribble Valley Taste Fest and Clitheroe Food Festival.
- 1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:
 - Valuing our Place and our Environment
 - Aspire to be a carbon neutral Council by 2030, and work with others in the borough to be more environmentally sustainable
 - Being a safe and clean place to live and visit, by promoting pride in the area and the environment
 - Building a strong economy
 - Encourage economic development

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Ribble Valley Taste Fest was held between 5 and 9 August with the Clitheroe Food Festival taking place on 10 August.
- 2.2 A more detailed report will be brought to the next Economic Development committee. The report will provide feedback from town centre businesses, food festival traders, Taste Fest businesses and an update on the 2024 budget.

3 RIBBLE VALLEY TASTE FEST

- 3.1 Following on from the success of last year's inaugural Ribble Valley Taste Fest, local businesses throughout the Ribble Valley participated in the Taste Fest with offerings including pizza-making, farm visits, guided walks and distillery tours, some of which were sold out within days of tickets going on sale. Reflecting on some the events which were cancelled, feedback suggests there needs to be a longer lead in period for promotion with, if possible, a full diary available about one month in advance. Practical events were, once again, particularly popular and these included walks followed food, interactive gastro experiences, and events for children.

4 CLITHEROE FOOD FESTIVAL

- 4.1 The culmination of Ribble Valley Taste Fest was Clitheroe Food Festival which was held on Saturday 10 August with 107 businesses and organisations attending. There was a total of 112 stalls available with some businesses occupying double stalls. A breakdown of all stall holders is provided in appendix 1.
- 4.2 The Food Festival followed a similar model to previous years in that it was a one-day event taking place in Clitheroe town centre on Castle Street, King Street, New Market Street and Clitheroe Market. All available stalls for this year were sold out well in advance of the festival along with a number of sponsorship packages.

- 4.3 The Food Festival drew in a record number of crowds throughout the day with the town being particularly busy in the afternoon. Approximately 25,000 visitors attended during the day, up from last year's record 20,000. A high number of stall holders sold out on the day showing the high demand from public visiting Clitheroe on the day.
- 4.4 The event was organised and managed by Council officers with support on the day provided by festival friends. Festival friends provided a friendly welcome to visitors, with a particular emphasis on meeting and greeting people as they arrived by train, coach and bus. Around 30 people volunteered as festival friends, including members of Whalley Lions and Clitheroe Rotary Club together with a number of individual volunteers.
- 4.5 Despite the inclement weather with multiple showers throughout the morning, a record number of people attended this year with crowds being larger than predicted causing the town centre to become extremely busy at times. Because it is free to attend, no tickets are sold and therefore predictions of crowd density cannot be made in advance, although provision for crowd safety are made in consultation with the police.

5 RECOMMEND THAT COMMITTEE

- 5.1 Note the report.

HASSAN DITTA
SENIOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER

NICOLA HOPKINS
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC
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BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

For further information please ask for Hassan Ditta, extension 4424

APPENDIX 1 – Traders at Clitheroe Food Festival

1. The Port of Lancaster Smokehouse
2. The Little Barn Bar
3. Sugar Tart Cupcakery
4. Fudge Factory
5. Lucela's
6. Sweet Craze
7. Bottle Wicks
8. The Yorkshire Pud Bakery
9. Bee Natural Wraps
10. Butternut Box
11. Ginger Bakers
12. Bowes Dairy Produce
13. Tosha Dibba
14. The Cornish Bakery
15. Concrete & Cacti
16. Booths
17. The Cake Tin
18. Crumbs
19. The Gourmet Scotch Egg Co
20. Blueberry Hill Preserves
21. Three Wheel Gin Co
22. Yorkshire Dama Cheese
23. The Wilde Bakery Flapjacks
24. La Focaccia
25. Northern Brownies
26. Breeosh
27. Malvavisco Marshmallows
28. The Grasmere Gingerbread Shop
29. The Great British Cheese Company
30. The Gift of Oil
31. PUD PUD CAKES
32. Mr Fitzpatrick's
33. Sian's India Express
34. The Cheese Board
35. Sizzlers Prime Meats
36. Elvins
37. Hacking Butchers
38. Bowland Brewery Bar
39. The Sunrise Patisserie
40. Pudalicious
41. Fairham Gin
42. Orchards of Husthwaite
43. The Real Thai Pie
44. Kushboo Soaps
45. Tricky Dickies
46. Country Crepes
47. Bowland Beef, Pork and Lamb
48. Mr Murray's Scotch Eggs
49. Pretzel and Spelt
50. Procters Cheeses
51. Bowland Chocolate
52. Signature Scones (2 pitches)
53. Jeni's Brownies

54. Global Nomad
55. Williams Handbaked
56. Spice Cartel
57. Love Ewe Dairy
58. Olive Tree Brasserie
59. Cowman's Famous Sausage Shop
60. Troy Greek Street Food (2 pitches)
61. The Finest Fudge
62. Charlie Macs Dogs
63. Lytham Gin
64. Marley's Pizza
65. Finch Bakery
66. Clitheroe Lions Strawberries and Cream (2 pitches)
67. Poison Ivy Cocktails
68. SNO FRO
69. Facepainting by Charlotte Hacking
70. Rosemere Cancer Foundation
71. Stansfields
72. The Chocolate Works
73. Vintage Box Bar
74. Mrs Dowsons Ice Cream
75. The Compleat Food Group
76. Provino
77. Cinderbake
78. Escape Coffee and Cocktails
79. Clitheroe Ale House
80. Ninja Coffee
81. Cunliffe Hog Roast
82. Porcus People (2 pitches)
83. Really Indian
84. Cafe Cannoli
85. The Bee Centre
86. Millie & Ruby's Dog Bakery
87. Loaded Sausage Co
88. Daddy's Cool Chilli Sauce
89. Farmhouse Fare
90. SoBar
91. D.Byrnes
92. Spoon Desserts
93. Root 2 Ginger
94. North West Game
95. Wrap Ninjas
96. Street Food Pizza
97. Beer Shack
98. Cake Up North
99. 2 Sisters Thai Food
100. Apricot Meringue
101. Eyes on the Fries
102. Super Bao Street Kitchen
103. Sanwitches Cafe (Sabden Smash)
104. Topsy Truck Company
105. Halloumination
106. Armenian Kitchen
107. Love is Churros
108. RVTA & Info Point