

## **25 March Planning Speaker Statements**

### **#4 - 25/04382/FUL Market Square - Market Trader**

I am a long-standing trader at Cambridge Market and have traded there for over two decades. I design and sell original, artist-led products and have built a loyal customer base, including international visitors, through my work at the market.

My business is built on original cartoon design and repeat customers who return to the market specifically for independent traders.

Cambridge Market is not only a historic public space, but a working market that supports independent traders whose businesses rely directly on daily trading activity. For many of us, including myself, the market is our primary source of income.

I welcome the intention to improve and maintain Market Square and recognise the importance of enhancing its appearance and preserving its historic character.

At the same time, it is essential that the refurbishment fully supports the practical realities of trading. This includes appropriate stall layout, sufficient space for displaying products, safe and workable surface materials, and arrangements that allow traders to operate efficiently on a daily basis.

The long-term success of the project will depend on maintaining strong customer footfall and ensuring that independent traders can continue to trade sustainably within the square.

Cambridge Market is defined not only by its physical setting, but by the independent traders who give it life, character and continuity. I hope the final design and implementation of the project will continue to support both the market and the traders who depend on it.