

Market Charter – email advice from Legal Services

Good afternoon Councillor

I have been asked to send to you a copy of the Council's markets charter for Spalding. In fact, in Spalding, whilst the market was originally a charter market, the charter was lost in the long distant past. It would appear that what remains is a market by prescription, and this was conveyed in 1876 by the Lords of the Manor of Spalding to the Spalding Improvement Commissioners "and their successors and assigns". Their duties and functions eventually passed, via the Spalding Urban District Council, to South Holland District Council.

A typed copy of the 1876 conveyance is enclosed. It includes conveyance of land, as well as the right to hold markets and fairs.

In those days the scribes were paid by the word so it is a bit lengthy. The copy is actually on A3 which doesn't scan very well, so in order to ensure it is all there, you will find that wording from the bottom of every other page repeats onto the top of the next.

If you put your mouse onto the document and right click you should get an option to "rotate clockwise". This will then make the document readable.

The market rights are contained on the 7th and 9th pages of the conveyance, and basically state as follows:

[the Lords of the Manor of Spalding]

"DOTH HEREGY GRANT RELEASE AND CONVEY UNTO the said Spalding Improvement Commissioners their successors and assigns ALL the fairs and markets of Spalding aforesaid and the right to hold the same AND ALL and EVERY the tolls dues duties and payments whatsoever appurtenant to the said fairs and markets and payable and to be paid in respect thereof in as full and ample a manner as the same have been heretofore accustomed to be held taken and received by or on behalf of the said Lords of the Manor of Spalding aforesaid or their predecessors."

"TO HAVE and TO HOLD the said several fairs and markets and the right to hold the same customs tolls rights dues duties payment and hereditaments and ALL and SINGULAR other the premises hereinbefore expressed to be hereby granted and conveyed with their appurtenance UNTO the said Spalding Improvement Commissioners their successors and assign"