

Stone Town Council – Estates Sub-Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in St Michael's Suite, Frank Jordan Centre, Lichfield Street, Stone on Tuesday 13 November 2018

PRESENT: Councillor M. Green in the Chair and
Councillors: Mrs J. Hood, Mrs E. Mowatt, G. Collier, R. Kenney and Mrs K. Green

By Chairman's invitation:
Councillors: J. Davies, Mrs C. Collier and M. Shaw

ABSENT: Councillors: I. Fordham, T. Jackson and Mrs J. Farnham

EST19/016 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors: I. Fordham, T. Jackson and Mrs J. Farnham

EST19/017 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None received

EST19/018 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None received

EST19/019 **Market Strategy**

The Sub-Committee considered the report* of the Town Clerk detailing the recommendations of the Markets Strategy Working Group on a future pricing strategy for the Town Council's markets and the production of a Market Strategy.

RECOMMENDED: That the Town Clerk is authorised to introduce the following recommendations, subject to further discussion on their implementation with the Working Group.

- a. Charges at Tuesday and Saturday markets should be reduced to £30.60 per marquee, with a 50% surcharge for the Farmers Market Saturday (£45.90), effective from the introduction of the new marquees.
- b. The Town Clerk be asked to examine and, if considered practical following consultation with the Markets Working Group, implement a system of payment in advance for market stalls.

* Items marked with an asterisk refer to reports or papers circulated with the agenda or distributed at the meeting. They are attached as an appendix to the signed copy of the Council minutes.

- c. A priority order for allocation of stalls on Farmers Market Saturday is adopted, as set out in the report.
- d. The Working Group monitors the success of this strategy, and reports back on any required changes in due course.
- e. The Town Clerk continues to exercise some discretion to vary stall prices where necessary for the overall benefit of the Council.

EST19/020 **Notice Boards and Fingerposts**

The Sub-Committee received an update on the current position with the notice boards and finger posts in partnership with Stafford Borough Council.

Notice Boards

The new notice board to be positioned at the top of the High Street has been ordered and is awaiting delivery.

Fingerposts

It was reported that washed out Stafford Borough Council signs are visible on the refurbished finger posts.

The Sub-Committee noted the position.

EST19/021 **Signage at Frank Jordan Centre**

The Sub-Committee considered a design proposal for a replacement sign to be installed at the Frank Jordan Centre. The sign is white in colour with green lettering and Town Council crest. Although it has different dimensions to the original, the new sign would have a similar surface area and be positioned in a central position at the front of the building (near to the CCTV signage). The Conservation Officer has no concerns with its design and position on the building.

RECOMMENDED: That the proposed design be accepted and an application be submitted to Stafford Borough Council for planning permission to install the sign on the front wall of the Frank Jordan Centre.

EST19/022 **High Street Bollards**

The Sub-Committee were pleased to learn that Staffordshire County Council had now installed new bollards at the top of the High Street.

The Sub-Committee asked that the County Council be informed that the bollards have no reflective bands rendering them dangerous to motorists who might not

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see them when turning into the High Street. The bollards also have no padlocks to prevent their removal by unauthorised persons.

EST19/023 Reports of Working Groups

Market Strategy

A report had been given earlier in the meeting.

The meeting was suspended at this point to enable the Management Sub-Committee meeting to take place. The Estates Sub-Committee meeting was then reconvened for the confidential items on the agenda.

EST19/024 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To resolve, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960, the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting whilst the next item of business is discussed on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the debate

RESOLVED: To exclude the Press and Public from the next item of business.

EST19/025 Hub Charges at the Frank Jordan Centre

The Sub-Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk* detailing the findings of a review of the charges made to The Hub for the use of the Frank Jordan Centre.

RECOMMENDED: That the Sub-Committee recommend to the General Purposes Committee that the proposals in the report are supported, and the Town Clerk asked to discuss them with the Hub, with the reservation that the use of the Christchurch Suite storeroom should not be offered exclusively to one user.

Town Mayor

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