

**STONE TOWN COUNCIL**

**Town Clerk**

Les Trigg

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20 December 2018

A meeting of the **ESTATES SUB COMMITTEE** will be held in **St Michael's Suite at Frank Jordan Centre, Lichfield Street, Stone** on **Tuesday 8 JANUARY 2019** at 7:15pm or on the rising of the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee, if later.

I trust you will be able to attend.

Les Trigg  
Town Clerk

Councillors: I. Fordham (Chair), M. Green (Vice Chair), Mrs J. Hood, Mrs E. Mowatt, Mrs J. Farnham, T. Jackson and G. Collier

**AGENDA**

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations Received**
3. **Representations from Members of the Public**  
  
To consider representations from members of the public on items to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with the Council's scheme of public participation
4. **Budget 2019-20 – 2021-22**  
  
To consider the report of the Town Clerk (attached)
5. **Reports of Working Groups**
  - Market Strategy

Will any Councillors who wish to speak at this meeting, but are not members of the Sub-Committee, please inform the Chairman before the start of the meeting

Members of the public are welcomed to attend the Estates Sub-Committee Meeting as observers and/or to make representations to the committee in accordance with the Council's scheme of public participation. Details of this scheme are displayed in the Council's notice boards and are also available from the Town Council.

## Stone Town Council – Estates Sub-Committee

8<sup>th</sup> January 2019

### Estates Sub-Committee Budget 2019-20 to 2021-22

#### Report of Town Clerk

#### Introduction

1. The purpose of this report is to determine the level of budget for services under its control that the Sub-Committee wishes to recommend to the General Purposes Committee meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019.

#### Background

2. The General Purposes Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018 considered the standstill budget for 2019-20 and indicative figures for the next two years based on a number of assumptions contained within the report.
3. The figures for this Sub-Committee are:

<b>Actual</b>		<b>Budget</b>	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>2017-18</b>		<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>
<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
98,379	Frank Jordan Centre	15,500	17,300	6,800	6,700	6,900
7,089	Stone Station	6,800	7,800	8,500	8,800	9,100
0	Stone Heritage Centre	25,000	0	125,000	25,000	25,000
-9,171	Town Market	1,500	-7,400	-13,200	-13,700	-13,900
5,097	Car Parking	6,000	4,500	4,500	4,600	4,700
1,554	Bus Shelters & Street Furniture	13,630	9,000	4,600	3,900	4,000
0	Public Conveniences	6,400	0	6,600	6,800	7,000
519	Street Lighting	500	800	500	500	500
719	Dog & Litter Bins	700	700	700	800	800
250	Joules Clock	300	0	300	300	300
97	Town Electricity Supply	200	400	400	400	400
0	Building Maintenance	9,700	9,700	10,000	10,000	10,000
<u>104,532</u>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>86,230</u>	<u>42,800</u>	<u>154,700</u>	<u>54,100</u>	<u>54,800</u>

4. In respect of the figures above, Members should note:
  - a. The current year's forecast for the Frank Jordan Centre includes the estimated cost for the replacement of the Centre boiler. The 2019-20 budget includes £300 to rebuild the wall at the rear of the car park and £2,000 for the removal of the broken wall at the entrance to the car park.

- b. The Stone Station budget for the current year includes provision for repairs to the step at the main entrance and the roof.
  - c. This budget includes a provision for the setting up and operation of a new Heritage Centre at Crown Wharf. It assumes that the Council's £100,000 reserve that it has been holding in respect of Crown Wharf will be utilised towards the cost of this work to partly offset the expenditure budgeted for 2019-20.
  - d. The Markets budget reflects the purchase of the new marquees in the current year and implementation of the new fee levels recently agreed by the General Purposes Committee. A contingency of £2,000 per annum has been provided from 2019-20 for repairs or replacement of the new marquees.
  - e. The Car Parking budgets assume that the Crown Wharf and Northesk Street car parks will continue to be available to the Council until at least March 2022. Both car parks are currently under threat and may close earlier than this. The budget includes the cost of rent, rates, and an estimate of ongoing maintenance costs.
  - f. The Bus Shelters and Street Furniture forecast for the current year includes the provision of a new notice board. The ongoing budget includes a provision of £2,400 for a rolling programme of bench and bus shelter maintenance together with an allowance for contingencies, to allow for unforeseen items which may arise during the year.
  - g. The Public Conveniences budget was new from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to provide for the cost of maintaining the Station Road public conveniences, which the Council became responsible for at that time. No formal agreement has yet been reached with Stafford Borough Council for the transfer of the responsibility, however, so the budget assumes that this will now start from April 2019.
  - h. The Street Lighting, Dog and Litter Bin, Joules Clock and Town Electricity Supply budgets assume that expenditure will continue at broadly the current levels.
  - i. £10,300 was transferred from the Building Maintenance Reserve to the Frank Jordan Centre to meet the costs of the boiler replacement in the current year. No other spending has yet been made in the current year against the Building Maintenance provision. Any underspending will be rolled forward into next year. An annual provision of £10,000 has been included for 2019-20 and subsequent years. Members will need to determine their priorities for the use of this sum.
5. As reported to the meeting of the General Purposes Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> December, the standstill budget is just the starting point for the budget process. Members will want to review this standstill budget and the amounts provisionally included. In addition, there are likely to be other areas where Members will want to undertake new developments or stop/change the things that the Council is doing now.

6. The Sub-Committee is asked to consider the standstill budget and any areas of growth or savings which they would want to be taken into account in setting the budget for 2019-20 and future years.

**Recommendations**

7. Members are asked to recommend their proposed budget for consideration by the General Purposes Committee on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019.