

Stone Town Council – Estates Sub-Committee

Minutes of the meeting held virtually on Tuesday 13 October 2020

NOTE: Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) and Government Guidelines on public gatherings, the meeting was held virtually on Zoom. Members of the public were invited to observe the meeting streamed live on YouTube.

PRESENT: Councillor I. Fordham in the Chair and
Councillors: A. Best, Mrs L. Davies, M. Green, Mrs J. Hood, R. Kenney,
C. Thornicroft and R. Townsend

By Chairman's invitation: Councillor P. Leason

ABSENT: Councillors: M. Hatton

EST20/024 **Apologies**

No apologies were received

EST20/025 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None received

EST20/026 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None received

EST20/027 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

That the minutes of the Estates Sub-Committee meeting held on the 7 January 2020 (Minute Numbers EST20/016 – EST20/023), be approved as a correct record.

EST20/028 **Update on Frank Jordan Centre**

The Chairman provided the Sub-Committee with an update on the Frank Jordan Centre.

The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that the Centre had been closed during lockdown except for use by Stone Community Hub, to enable the charity to continue operating its food bank. The Hub had expanded into the St Michael's Suite at a time when there was an unprecedented demand for food parcels from local residents.

* 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.

The Chairman confirmed that the Hub had now moved out of St Michael's Suite and back into the Walton Suite (where the office area continues to be used as a foodbank) freeing up St Michael's Suite for rental once again.

The Committee was informed that in addition to supporting the Hub the opportunity had been taken to carry out significant works in Christchurch Suite to upgrade its condition. The work is now complete and provides a high quality community centre which can be utilised by local residents when conditions allow.

The Committee was also informed that several other upgrades have taken place including installation of Wi-Fi, improvements to signage on the centre and entrance to the car park, cleaning of the car park, repairing damaged brickwork and replacing a section of defective roof.

The Chairman advised the Committee that the Frank Jordan Centre is now beginning to see the return of hirers and an increase in enquiries, which are being accepted subject to Covid-19 requirements.

EST20/029 Reports of Working Groups

Market Strategy (Market Pricing & Strategy)

The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that the Market Strategy Working Group had not met due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Councillor Fordham confirmed that the Farmer's Market was scheduled to return to the High Street in November when the working group would be in a better position to review the operation of the town's markets.

Use of Frank Jordan Centre and Stone Station

The Chairman advised the Committee that no meeting of the Community Centres Working Group had taken place.

Councillor Fordham advised that he had given an update on the Frank Jordan Centre earlier in the meeting and Stone Station Community Centre was operating within Covid-19 guidelines.

Chairman

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