



21 July 2021

Request

With reference to Freedom of Information request PFOI-2021-09 in which it was noted that Karl Sutton of the Hideout Cafe had already cost the Parish of St Brelade a total of £27,969.53 in legal costs and the raising of a requête.

I would like to know what the current rental is for the Hideout Cafe, together with the accumulated loss to the Parish of St Brelade since the Hideout Cafe was first established at La Pulente. This with specific reference to the original agreement under the former Constable Steve Pallet at what was reported to be a peppercorn rental agreement of only £4 a day or £1,500 a year.

Finally I would like to know whether the St Brelade Rates payer is fully aware that the actions of the Hideout Cafe will inevitably mean a rise in future Rates, and whether there are any further costs to the Rates payer yet to be taken into account?

Response

1. Current rental for the Hideout Café:

The current rental to 31 December 2021 is £5,000 plus £10 per cover = £360 – total of £5,360.

2. Accumulated loss:

There is no demonstrated loss.

3. Whether the St Brelade Rates payer is fully aware that the actions of the Hideout Cafe will inevitably mean a rise in future Rates:

It is the Parish Assembly which determines the rate for the Parish. The Assembly does this in accordance with Article 21(1) of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005 having received:

- a) the audited accounts and
- b) the estimates of funds required by the parish for the financial year.

The estimates are approved with or without amendment and the Assembly then sets the rate to produce for the parish income that is at least sufficient to satisfy the requirements set out in the approved estimates, taking into account any surplus of funds that are to be used to offset the general expenses of the parish during that financial year.

The audited accounts for the year ending 30 April 2021 and the estimates for the year ending 30 April 2022 were presented to the Parish Assembly held on 13 July 2021 - the accounts and estimates are available on the Parish website <https://parish.gov.je>.

4. Whether there are any further costs to the Rates payer yet to be taken into account:

The legal matter is not yet concluded so there may be further costs depending on the outcome of the case and the Court's decision on costs.