

Background

Councillors may be aware that in the October F and M Committee meeting, the Clerk advised that she would be talking with Equans and partners about the possibility of placing Solar Panels on the roof of the Town Council and Theatre buildings.

The Clerk met with Southern Staffordshire Community Energy initiative (aligned with Cannock Chase Solar project which is part of Zero Carbon Rugeley). In essence there are two ways in which we could be supported in having solar panels on the roof to reduce the cost of electricity for the Town Council and the Theatre:

Proposed Design

The system would place solar panels on the SE facing pitched roofs of the Town Council building and the Rose Theatre. In addition, there would be an A frame base on which would be mounted solar panels and this would sit on the flat roof SW facing over the Landor Suite and panels on the SW pitched roof over the theatre auditorium. The system would not include storage but there may be scope to include storage (addition £15,000 approx). This would be useful in the theatre where highest consumption is out of daylight hours.

Community Benefit Model

The Power Purchase Agreement is usually agreed for a 20-year term. So, the unit we pay for the solar energy incrementally pays back the investors their investment plus a modest amount of interest. The surplus is distributed for community benefit e.g., fuel poverty interventions or EV charge points. After the 20-year term, ownership of the system is transferred to the building owner. With this model there is no upfront cost to the Town Council. In addition, all maintenance and upkeep is covered by the providers.

Self-Funded Model

To purchase and install the panels on the 4 roofs will cost between £55,000 - £60,000 initial outlay. In addition, there are ongoing maintenance and service costs. However, with this system, we would not pay any rate for the electricity generated by the panels.

Roofs

The pitched roofs should be capable of holding the panels. However, the flat roof over the Landor Suite does need to be replaced. It is anticipated that this would be at a cost of around £65,000 and this work would need to be done whichever of the models was chosen.

Recommendation from Finance and Management Committee

The F and M Committee recommend that the Town Council pay for a new flat roof on the Landor Suite and installation of solar panels on the flat and pitched roofs as shown in the diagram below. This would cost circa £120,000+ and could come from the Ear Marked Reserve (EMR) contingency budget (£15,000), the EMR car parking subsidy (£30,000) and general reserves (£75,000+).

Please see diagram, graphs and pictures below for condensed explanation

Item 119 Solar Panels

59.295_{kW}
System Size

£10,117
Estimated Annual
Electricity Bill Savings

£65,225
Total System Price

£65,225
Net System Price



Your Solution

Solar Panels
SunPower
59.295 kW Total Solar Power
177 x 335 Watt Panels (SPR-P3-335-BLK)
51,216 kWh per year

System Performance

62%
Energy From Solar



Item 119
Solar Panels

