



**Borough Court**

**Grammar School Lane**

**Halesowen**

**West Midlands**

**B63 3SW**

**Service Charge Expenditure Report**

**1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December  
2017**



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Johnson Fellows. Charter House, Newhall Street, Birmingham, B3 1SW



Regulated by RICS



## **Introduction**

This report has been produced by Johnson Fellows on behalf of the Landlord, Artistic Trims Ltd. It is intended to provide details of the expenditure incurred during the service charge period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

Enclosed within this report is a copy of the Service Charge Apportionment Schedule and Service Charge Variance Schedule.

## **The Property**

The property is located on Grammar School Lane, which adjoins Old Hawne Lane. The property is a short distance from the A458 Stourbridge Road and the main Halesowen town centre.

Borough Court is a courtyard style development providing a mixture of single and two storey buildings of varying ages. There are a variety of uses including offices, light industrial and a gymnasium. In addition to the courtyard buildings, there is an adjacent plot of land used for display purposes.

The communal areas of the estate include the car park and rear walkways. Under the terms of the individual leases, the maintenance of the roof and building structure is also provided for under the service charge provisions.

## **Voids and Concessions**

Where any void units exist, the responsibility for the service charge rests with the Landlord.

## **VAT**

The property is elected for VAT, consequently the expenditure stated within this report is net of VAT.

## **Banking**

Due to the general level of service charge funds, they are not maintained within a discrete bank account. The funds are held within the Johnson Fellows Clients Account which is maintained with Barclays Bank plc. As a consequence the service charge is not credited with any interest, neither are any bank charges allocated to the service charge.

Interest charged on the late payment of service charge by tenants is to be credited to the service charge.

## **Reserve Fund**

A Reserve Fund has been set up in order to accrue funds for the resurfacing of the car park. The Reserve Fund is held in a discrete bank account in order to obtain interest on the retained funds. The account is maintained with Barclays Bank plc, Kidderminster branch.



### **Service Charge Objectives**

The objective of Johnson Fellows as Managing Agent is to provide a high quality management service. In so doing we aim to provide a well maintained environment, delivering value for money for the service charge expenditure.

The objective of this report is to provide a clear explanation of the service charge expenditure on a not for profit/not for loss basis. It is also to promote clarity and transparency.

Should any occupier have comments on the format, or the information contained in this report which would assist in the report being improved for the benefit of all concerned, these comments would be welcomed. We would also welcome constructive feedback on the communal services provided at the property.

The service charge is administered having regard to RICS Practice Standards; Service Charges in Commercial Property; 3rd Edition, Code of Practice.



## **Management Team**

### **Facilities Manager:**

Chris Monteith  
Johnson Fellows, Charter House, 163 Newhall Street, Birmingham, B3 1SW  
Direct Dial: 0121 234 0409  
Mobile: 07786 072 755  
Email: [chris.monteith@johnsonfellows.co.uk](mailto:chris.monteith@johnsonfellows.co.uk)

Chris Monteith is responsible for the repair and maintenance of the property and statutory compliance.

### **Management Surveyor:**

Ian Starbuck  
Johnson Fellows, Charter House, 163 Newhall Street, Birmingham, B3 1SW  
Direct Dial: 0121 234 0462  
Mobile: 07887 745 635  
Email: [ian.starbuck@johnsonfellows.co.uk](mailto:ian.starbuck@johnsonfellows.co.uk)

Ian Starbuck is responsible for the overall management of the property.

### **Service Charge Accountant:**

Rebecca Glover  
Client Accounts  
Johnson Fellows, Charter House, 163 Newhall Street, Birmingham, B3 1SW  
Direct Dial: 0121 234 0405  
Email: [rebecca.glover@johnsonfellows.co.uk](mailto:rebecca.glover@johnsonfellows.co.uk)

Rebecca Glover is the client accountant responsible for this property.



### **Service Charge Apportionment**

The apportionment is detailed within the Service Charge Apportionment Schedule attached at Appendix A.

The service charge expenditure is contained under a single schedule that all courtyard occupiers contribute towards, reflecting the benefit of the services provided. The occupier of the adjacent land does not contribute towards the service charge, due to the self-contained nature of the site.

The apportionment percentages are calculated based on net internal floor areas.



## **Expenditure Commentary**

### ***SCHEDULE 1 – All Courtyard Occupiers***

***All figures are shown net of VAT***

- **External Cleaning** **£1,845.00**

The heading reflects the cost of the contract for litter picking, sweeping, weed control and the removal of any fly tipping across the main car park and the rear fire escape routes. The contract provides for two visits per month (24 per annum). The contract is held by Holder Site Management Ltd. The expenditure came in above budget. This was largely due to the inclusion of gritting services through the winter months.

- **Refuse** **£2,313.62**

The expenditure is for the weekly waste collection contract. The contract is held by Commercial Waste Recycling and the costs came in virtually on budget.

- **Building Repairs** **£2,215.10**

The cost heading covers any repairs and maintenance in respect of the structure of the buildings and the car park. The main items of expenditure were the installation of new fascias & gutters and roof repairs.

- **Landscaping** **£765.00**

The expenditure incurred is for the annual pruning of the 9 beech trees to the front of the estate and the annual clearance of the fire escape route to the rear of units 7, 8 & 9. The contract is held by Holder Site Management Ltd. The expenditure came in virtually on budget.

- **Water Charges** **£806.12**

The cost heading provides for the water charges levied at the estate by South Staffordshire Water Plc. The expenditure was above budget.

- **Statutory Compliance** **£0.00**

The budget provided for the completion of a Health and Safety Audit. However, this was not completed due to insufficient funds.

- **Reserve Fund** **£1,000.00**

A reserve fund was set up for the service charge year in order to build funds for the eventual resurfacing of the car park. This year's contribution was in line with the budget.

- **Audit Fee** **£350.00**

Whilst not contained in the budget originally, the expenditure covers the cost for an independent accountant to certify the service charge expenditure. This is regarded as best practice.



- **Management Fee** **£1,500.00**

The figure represents the costs incurred for the management of the property and the administration of the service charge, including periodic inspections. The RICS Service Charge Code of Practice recommends that this be a fixed fee, subject to annual review or indexation. The fee level was in line with the budget.

- **Facilities Management** **£750.00**

The expenditure is for the Facilities Manager to organise the maintenance contracts and supervise the works. The fee level was in line with the budget.

**Total**

**Schedule 1** **£11,544.84**

.....  
Facilities Manager

.....  
Partner

Dated 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018

Dated 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018



**Appendix A**

**Borough Court, Grammar School Lane, Halesowen**

**Service Charge Apportionment Schedule**

**1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017**

| Unit  | Schedule | Area Sq Ft | Apportionment % |
|-------|----------|------------|-----------------|
| 1     | 1        | 2,797      | 18.98%          |
| 2     | 1        | 2,650      | 21.17%          |
| 3     | 1        | 2,195      | 17.54%          |
| 4     | 1        | 1,000      | 7.99%           |
| 5     | 1        | 809        | 6.46%           |
| 6     | 1        | 1,046      | 8.36%           |
| 7     | 1        | 955        | 7.63%           |
| 8&9   | 1        | 1,486      | 11.87%          |
| Total |          | 12,938     | 100.00%         |



## Appendix B

**Borough Court, Grammar School Lane, Halesowen**

### **Service Charge Variance Schedule**

**1st January 2017 to 31st December 2017**

The property is VAT registered. Figures for Schedule 1 shown net of VAT.

| Service Charge Item   | Schedule | Budget 2017        | Expenditure 2017   | Budget v Expenditure £ |
|-----------------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| External Cleaning     | 1        | £ 1,400.00         | £ 1,845.00         | £ 445.00               |
| Refuse                | 1        | £ 2,350.00         | £ 2,313.62         | -£ 36.38               |
| Building Repair       | 1        | £ 2,500.00         | £ 2,215.10         | -£ 284.90              |
| Landscaping           | 1        | £ 800.00           | £ 765.00           | -£ 35.00               |
| Water Charges         | 1        | £ 500.00           | £ 806.12           | £ 306.12               |
| Statutory Compliance  | 1        | £ 750.00           | £ -                | -£ 750.00              |
| Reserve Fund          | 1        | £ 1,000.00         | £ 1,000.00         | £ -                    |
| Audit Fees            | 1        | £ -                | £ 350.00           | £ 350.00               |
| Management Fee        | 1        | £ 1,500.00         | £ 1,500.00         | £ -                    |
| Facilities Management | 1        | £ 750.00           | £ 750.00           | £ -                    |
| <b>Total</b>          |          | <b>£ 11,550.00</b> | <b>£ 11,544.84</b> | <b>-£ 5.16</b>         |