



Pictured: Hot-desks at Venture House

www.zenithtax.co.uk

An experienced Stratford based financial consultancy has taken advantage of a Stratford-upon-Avon business centre as its new hot-desking home.

HOT-DESKING HELPS TAKE THE HEAT OFF

Paul Barnett, who co-owns Zenith Financial Solutions with Claire Tomlinson, has been operating his business from a hot desk at Venture House - Stratford-on-Avon District Council's new state-of-the-art business centre on the Avenue Farm Industrial Estate in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Big projects

Zenith Financial Solutions was set-up 16 years ago and provides contract-based finance consultancy services and often assists companies in acquisition processes. Big projects taken on have included a contract with the Football Association (FA) to help set-up the home of English football, St. George's Park.

Venture House has been funded by the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) through an award of £450,000 as part of the Growth Deal initiative, and is led by a team from Stratford-on-Avon District Council. The award is part of an overall £89.4 million Growth Deal Package for Coventry and Warwickshire announced in January 2015.

Finding a local facility

Paul, who lives in Stratford-upon-Avon, said Zenith Financial Solutions have often used hot-desking and was searching for a local facility when he came across Venture House.

He said: "I had been looking for a facility in Stratford for a couple of years but one didn't exist. Then my wife spotted Venture House in the council leaflet and that was that.

"I just find it helps me work better than if I'm working from home - it is a really pleasant environment.

"When I'm at a clients I get a lot of interruptions, whereas in a hot-desk set-up you can get you head down and push on with what you want to do."

Zenith Financial Solutions usually focus on one contract at a time. Paul visits Venture House at least once a week, whenever he has a day without meetings.

"I try to do all my meetings at the clients but if there are days without meetings I will always come down to Venture House," added Paul.

"What is brilliant about this place it is a nice open-desk space, a good place to work, it's quiet and has excellent facilities. It's perfect for me really, with it being so close to home."

Venture House provides 2,500 square feet of business space over two floors offering hot-desking, co-working space, self-contained offices, superfast broadband, free business support through the Coventry and Warwickshire LEP Growth Hub, along with conferencing facilities.

Flexible working space

Nancy Singleton, centre manager, said: "We are delighted that Venture House is proving to be a productive and flexible working space to support the business needs of Zenith.

"We pride ourselves on the flexibility that Venture House offers and are pleased that Paul is using the facility on a regular basis.

"We know from our business clients that they can often feel isolated or distracted when working from home and we want Venture House to be able to support all types of business, with a range of different needs and hope more local businesses take advantage of what we offer here."

Lucy McGovern, CWLEP programme development manager, added: "It's great to see businesses like Zenith Financial Solutions utilising the facilities available at Venture House.

"Hot-desks are still a major part of how some businesses choose to operate and Paul is the perfect example of how nearby facilities like this can provide a much-needed workspace for individuals like him."



Further information about Venture House is available by contacting 01789 207 500 or by email on info@venturehousetratford.co.uk or visiting www.venturehousetratford.co.uk

Venture House Business Centre is operated & managed by Stratford-on-Avon District Council in partnership with:



ABOUT THE GROWTH DEAL

The Coventry and Warwickshire Growth Deal supports the local area's aspirations to build on its advanced manufacturing and engineering strengths by investing in:

- New transport infrastructure which will improve connections with other cities and towns and tackle congestion on the area's roads.
- Driving innovation in advanced manufacturing and engineering through the provision of new R&D and business support facilities.
- Supporting businesses to flourish through the provision of effective business advice and support.
- Growing local skills and talent through investment in Further Education Colleges.