

## NOTES ON DRAFT ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023

**RECEIPTS - Note: Figures in round brackets are for previous year – figures in square brackets are the amounts allowed in the budget**

**PRECEPT:** The Precept was kept the same this year as last year, £11,000 (11,000) {11,000}

**VILLAGE HALL RECEIPTS:** Now that we are completely free of Covid restrictions, use of the hall has returned to normal levels. Therefore, with a further increase in hire fees, the income was £15,912 (£14,898) {There is no budget amount as the council agreed to not include hall hire in the budget until after it was received}

**AGENCY SERVICES:** The Parish Council again undertook the verge/hedge cutting contract from Norfolk County Council under delegated powers. This payment is automatically increased in line with inflation. A payment of £3,049 was received (£2,785) {2,800}

**RECYCLING:** We have not received the usual fee for hosting the recycling bins. I will follow this up with SNC (£250){£250}

**WAYLEAVE:** This is the payment we receive for the power lines that cross the playing field. The annual payment received was £274. (£284) {£284}

**SOLAR PANELS:** 4 FIT payments totalling £323 were received (£303){£300}

**ALLOTMENTS:** All plots are currently leased, although one, where the lease wasn't renewed as the plot had not been cultivated, has only just been let for half of the rent for the remaining 6 months of this allotment year. The large plot, by the village hall, plus the field on the other side of the road, are wrapped up into a 5 yr Farm Based Tenancy agreement. The total income from parish council land was £1,944 (£2,064 – this was higher than usual as it included half year rents for the new plots){£1,956}

**BOWLS CLUB RECHARGE:** Due to the very hot summer and drought, the Bowls Club's use of water to water the green was extremely high. £608 was received for their water and electric usage (£189) {200}

**BANK INTEREST:** After several years of very low interest rates, the rate increased a few months ago, so £48 has been received (£2.18)

**CIL:** No Community Infrastructure Levy payments have been received this year

**MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS:** A donation of £527 was received from the community group that organised the Jubilee celebration event. This money is ring-fenced for the future development of the play area. A total of £2,687 was received as a combination of the Parish Partnership Scheme and our County Council Members' Grant which went towards the purchase and installation of the new bus shelter outside the pub. £25 was received from Barclays bank for compensation after we complained to them about their poor service.

**VAT:** Reclaim of £690 was received – (£4,091, much higher than usual as it included the work for the replacement roof

**TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR £37,087 (36,570)**

**PAYMENTS - All figures are net of VAT. Figures in round brackets are for previous year – figures in square brackets are the amounts allowed in the budget**

**ADMINISTRATION COSTS:** Office costs continue to drop now that most things are online and no longer use Zoom, so total costs were £42 (£113) {£200}

**INSURANCE:** Annual Zurich insurance premium £1,352 (£1,262) {£1,250}

**SALARIES:** The national pay increase for the previous year was late in being agreed and was backdated a year, so the costs for this fell into this financial year. During this year, the Clerk's pay-band was increased in line with the national recommendation and a national pay rise for this current year was received for both staff, backdated to April. Therefore the staff costs are much higher this year. Combined salary of both posts, including HMRC payments was £7,994. (£5,954, booking clerk was on part time furlough for part of previous year) {£6,257}

**CLERK'S EXPENSES:** Mileage £97 (£65) {105}

**AGENCY SERVICES:** The urban and rural delegated service of verge cutting contracts continue to be delivered by two local contractors. The invoice from one contractor for the 21/22 year was received after the end of the financial year, so £1,584 paid this year relates to work carried out the previous year. Including this figure, a total of £2,779 was paid (£720 see comment above re late invoice) {£3,195} The cost of this contract is met entirely from the money received from Norfolk County Council

**UTILITIES:**

- £863 Heating Oil: We have not yet received invoice for recent delivery (£0 - tank had been completely filled when prices were low the previous year) {£1,200}
- £485 Electricity: We are currently in a 2 year fixed term agreement which has protected us from the price rises (£331 – an invoice was sent late and fell in current year) {£500}.
- £550 Water: The vast majority of water is used by the Bowls Club (£202) {£400}

The Parish council recharges an element of water and electricity to the Bowls Club as recorded in Receipts

**VILLAGE HALL:** A total of £5,988 was spent on general maintenance, cleaning and running costs - excluding utilities (£5,064) {£4,776}

- £4,050 Cleaning contract and cleaning materials – Cleaning company increased their rates for the first time after the budget was set (£3,310) {£3,816}
- £180 Annual Premises licence (£180) {£180}
- £341 Fire alarm and extinguishers – servicing and repairs (£249) {£375}
- £1,358 Building maintenance and repairs – includes new water heater and bucket sink (£795){£500}
- £59 Wheelie bins emptying (£59){£59}

**PLAYING FIELD/GROUNDS:** A total of £1,669 was spent maintaining the playing field and grounds (£1,395) {£2,410}. Work has just been carried out to repair the worn ground at the goal mouths and under the play equipment but this invoice will fall into next year.

- £1,305 Grass cutting and maintenance of playing field (£1,067) {£1,305}
- £88 Annual RoSPA inspection of play area
- £86 Equipment repairs/replacements
- £190 Harrowing and wildflower seeding under the new orchard – work done last year, but late invoice means costs included this year. Cutting of orchard and allotment track

**DOG BINS:** £221 (£265) {£300}

**FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS: £873 (1147) {£996}**

- £228 Internal Auditor (£228)
- £200 External Auditor (£300)
- £242 Norfolk Association of Local Councils (includes website hosting fee)
- £20 National Playing Fields Association subs
- £20 Community Action Norfolk subs
- £35 Information Commission Certification
- £78 Payroll Site annual fee
- £50 Advert in The Net

**LOAN REPAYMENTS:** The ongoing PWLB loan was £1,357 the same as previous years. Final payment for this loan will be May 2025. The 5 year interest free loan for the roof was £4,200, deducted at source from the precept. Final payment for this loan will be September 2025.

**TRAINING:** £280 on planning and new councillor training (£40) {£250}

**PROJECTS:** £3,373 for a bus shelter, erected outside the pub

**MISCELLANEOUS:** £82

**BUSINESS RATES:** This was zero rated again this year

**BANK CHARGES:** No charges have been incurred

**TOTAL PAYMENTS FOR YEAR - £32,204 (23,676)**

**Surplus of receipts over payments - £4,883**

**BANK BALANCES** at end of March: £44,448.63 – This includes refundable advance hall deposits of £500.