

## Actual v Budget – Review for the year to 31.3.23

Financial Regulation 4.8. The RFO shall regularly provide the council with a statement of receipts and payments to date under each head of the budgets, comparing actual expenditure to the appropriate date against that planned as shown in the budget. These statements are to be prepared at least at the end of each financial quarter and shall show explanations of material variances. For this purpose “material” shall be the higher of that in excess of £100 or 15% of the budget.

Overall, spend v income = 101.12% at £1000.52

### Exceptional Spends

#### Admin Charges (181.69%)

Appointment of independent payroll provider, with assurance provided by outsourcing rather than through internal management by the Clerk. Also providing completing HMRC and Pension Auto-enrolment returns.

#### Clerk's Expenses (242.39%)

Claims for homeworking allowance in full due to escalating fuel costs, working from home as there is no parish office, and claiming for some of the additional visits to the parish due to increased petrol costs.

#### Defibrillator (164.45%)

To secure wall mounting and electrical repair.

#### Grants & Donations (128%)

Two community awards for Jubilee and Coronation events, the excess has been offset by the return of £156, unspent portion of a previous grant in 2015.

#### Insurance Sports Pavilion (126.26%)

The pavilion was significantly undervalued and a professional desk top valuation obtained in May 2022 to ensure that the correct level of insurance cover was arranged.

#### Top Playing Field (256.47%)

The last tree survey had been undertaken in 2015 and following Storm Eunice, notwithstanding that the Churchwardens are responsible under the current lease, to maintain the health, safety and welfare of the many users a tree survey was commissioned and work undertaken.

#### Pond Path (239.70%)

In the interests of health and safety, following the pond restoration a new path was installed, the costs of which were funded 50:50 with the South Downs National Park Authority.

#### Sports Pavilion (312.59%)

To meet Health and Safety Legislation and deal with emergency plumbing repair.

#### Sandbags (no budget)

Purchased at a cost of £363.24 to manage drainage issues in Reynolds Lane during unprecedented rainfall in November 2022, of which £220 recovered by way of compensation from Portsmouth Water Authority.

#### Streetlighting (118.07%)

2 year fixed tariff expired August 2022, impacted by global increase in prices at renewal.

## Projects – Awards and Grants

- 1 Operation Watershed's grant of £62104.92 to enhance pond biodiversity and improve drainage has now been spent. Working with the Environment Agency and the local farmer to spread the silt on a field in the parish as an alternative to the use of a landfill site, a saving of £7525 was possible which has been used towards a new pond island and further improvements to drainage in the field into which the pond drains.
- 2 National Lottery Community Fund £9968 –  
Platinum Jubilee purchases (all installed in 2022/23) – 2 new commemorative benches, 3 new noticeboards, 1 accessible picnic table and improved lighting at the Coronation Hall.  
Coronation Commemorative purchases (to be installed in 2023/24) - 2 new commemorative seats, 1 accessible picnic table and balance towards the cost of pond island.  
Working with volunteers it has been possible to reduce the cost of installing these items and a third bench was purchased with a donation towards its cost.
- 3 Path – 50% of the total cost of £1827 was paid by the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA).
- 4 Pond bank erosion management – cost of willow structure by 2Circle Design £500, funded in full by the South Downs National Park Authority and due to be installed Summer 2023.
- 5 Pond Interpretation Board – a collaborative project initiated by the Parish Council, to be funded by the National Trust and SDNPA at circa £2000, covering heritage links and biodiversity.
- 6 The Parish Council continues to identify potential opportunities to fund new play equipment and submit grant applications.