

West Wycombe Parish Suggested Budget for 2016/17 for discussion by Council

Estimated Running Costs for 2016/2017

Clerks salary, pension	(Staff)		9588
Expenses, Ann Report, stationery/s/ware	(Adm)	1680)	
Auditors	(Adm)	418)	
Chairman's Allowance	(Adm)	100)	
Postage	(Adm)	120)	4565
Insurance	(Adm)	1500)	
Hire of Rooms	(Adm)	250)	
Use of office, energy, broadband	(Adm)	500)	
Web site, telephone line	(Adm)		2850
Training	(Adm)		100
Subscriptions	(Adm)		650
Fete	(Adm)		500
Misc donations	(Adm)		500
S137 expenditure Old Peoples Party/Poppy Wreaths	(Adm)		200
Lighting (maintenance and energy)			5300
Replacement street lighting reserve			6000
Pedestal Playing Field maintenance and rent			4260
Pedestal Playing field equipment			2500
Burial Ground maintenance and refuse and tree works			4240
Allotment maintenance incl water, hedge cutting and scrub clearance			1500
Highways - verge grass cutting/weed killer/salt/dog bins/sign cleaning			5000
General reserve			8000
Total			55,756
Income:			
Opening balance (includes lighting and general reserve totalling £11,000)			19000
VAT refund			2000
Precept			38250
Council Tax Support Grant			1500
Bucks CC – devolved services			2139
Downley Dynamos			300
Allotment rents			360
Interest			2
Total			62,551

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I have worked out our proposed and planned expenditure for the remainder of this financial year. This includes paying the £3000 we committed to the parking scheme for Church Lane; allowing for the installation of the new goal post and net; major tidying on the hedge on the left hand side of the allotments; all the normal monthly payments. At the end of September we had £36461.95 in the bank as the second half of the precept has now been paid in. We are due another £1070 from BCC for the devolved services work, £300 from Downley Dynamos and a further £360 for allotment rent. With the cheques for October allowed for and the projected expenditure of approximately £16,500 we would have a yearend balance of approximately £19,000. Of this theoretically £11,000 is in reserve - £5000 for street lights an £6000 general reserve. At the recent budget training I attended we were advised that we should have the equivalent to half the precept sitting in the bank - £19,000 represents that figure.

I am attending a meeting next Wednesday (25th) where Bucks CC will start talking about the extra services they may be thinking of devolving and as we have always assumed we will eventually – probably in the next two years – not receive funding for the devolved services we have taken on. We therefore need to keep our reserves up for when that time comes. As a Parish Council I cannot see that we are in a position to take on some of the devolved services BCC currently undertake but who knows what they are actually talking about – this was not clear at the previous meeting I attended.

We talked about installing a concrete table tennis table on the Pedestal Playing Field and with our reserves and VAT refund this year and allowance from next year this would be possible – I think the total cost including a base, lifting gear and installation will probably be around £2500. It would be a piece of 'equipment' for all ages. I would suggest we order it in early February so it is installed for the Easter holidays at the end of March (depending on projected delivery lead time).

I have prices from Elizabeth Stillman for the extra work on the allotments and weed killing along the West Wycombe Road as well as continuing with the work she carries out at the Pedestal Roundabout and Cutty Alley. Acorn Landscaping will keep the same price for next year's grass cutting. We could probably install some heavyweight planters on the entry into West Wycombe on the A40 – I am not sure about our other parish entries as we do not control the grass cutting there.

I have increased the lighting reserve by £1000 and added a further £2000 to the current reserve. At this stage I do not know whether we will get the Council Tax Support grant or what the figure will be – I have used this year's figure for now.

We have been advised that NALC will be increasing its subscription and the phone bill has not reduced as much as I thought it would – I have started discussions with BT over this but for now have allowed a higher figure.

There should be enough information for the Councillors to start a budget discussion and to decide whether there are any other items we should be considering e.g. we may need for Christmas lights next year.

Sharon Henson, Clerk/RFO

19.11.15