

31st December 2022 to 31st March 2023 Predictions of Expenditure / Budget Notes and guidance from Clerk/RFO to Lympsham Parish Council.

Current Account 31st Dec 2022 =£5337.68

+ VAT predicted to reclaim (now) + Clerk predicted until March 31st 2022 = Total £1650.00

+ L News Adverts owed= £690.00 + Brent Knoll PC donation £100.00

Total = £7777.68

Payments predicted and budgeted by Clerk to end of year 31/03/2023

Donations

- L in Bloom £ 600.00
 - Christmas Tree= £100.00
- Total = £700.00

General Expenditure

- Website hosting £490.00
- Dog Bins £336.00
- Clerk salary inc Tax £2586.22
- Equipment £50.00 (not counting that from CIL Money)
- Office quarterly expenses £100.00
- Training £75.00
- Unity Bank £54.00
- Scribe £346.00
- Grounds Maintenance £250
- Bridleway Maintenance £300.00
- Donation to Chatty Hour=£50.00

Total = £4637.22

Grand Total=£5337.22

Predicted 31.03.2022 Carry Forward -

=£2440.46

For comparison c/f figures -

1/04/2019 c/f figure = £8801.56

1/04/2020 c/f figure = £7932.48

1/04/2021 c/f figure = 4808.72

1/04/2022 c/f figure = £3479.10

Deposit Account 331/11/2022 £24,795.54

Breakdown: £86.25 Lymsham in Bloom Funds, £717.64 Gardening Club Funds, £1590.48 Climate Change Grant, £17,737.06 CIL, £4664.11 Capital Reserves.

Capital Reserves= **£4664.11**-up from **£1440.00** this time two years ago so improving however:

- A Parish Council of our size is recommended to hold up to **12 months' net revenue** expenditure as reserves (**Governance and Accountability para 5.32, page 35 of March 2020 edition**).
- Our expenditure is regularly more than we receive as income, and we are carrying forward less than half of what we did in 2020. The Budget for next year needs careful consideration. We highlighted the importance of having reserves last year and the Clerk refers the Members to the following which may impact on Parish and Town Councils:
- Covering a contested election (Please refer to recent bulletin from Electoral Services. A contested election is likely to cost us approx. £2000)
- Changing to a Unitary is now confirmed and we cannot predict what will fall to us in terms of added expenditure in future.

It was clear when discussed that we could not build up 6 - 12 months reserves straightaway, so we aimed to hold 3 months and then build up to an amount agreed by Members on the Clerk/RFO's recommendation.

Based on the figures of predicted annual expenditure shown, LPC should have approx. **£6250.00 as three months' capital reserves. This would mean transferring £1585.89 from Current Account carry forward figure leaving a net figure of £854.57**

The Clerk reminds the Members of the following to consider when setting a Budget for the coming year:

- CIL money is specific in how it can be spent, and does not feature in calculating the figure needed for Precept.
- A Budget is set and agreed by Members of a Council and then the calculation for Precept is made by deducting any known Income to get the Precept requirement
- The Council have a responsibility to ensure that assets are maintained and all items and projects in the coming year are budgeted for.

Based on the Clerks predicted spend to end of financial year, the total expenditure will be **£22,513.98 (not including CIL spending, Climate Change Grant, Gardening club and L in B spending)** for 2022-2023.

In 2021-2022 the total "normal" expenditure was **£23,426.00**

In 2020-2021 the total expenditure was **£20,380.87**

The above may be useful when setting the Budget and consequently arriving at a Precept demand. There are a lot of unknowns as we enter into a Unitary Authority.

Sally Ferguson December 2022