

Financial Report

2014/15

You all have a copy of draft MPC accounts which have been audited by Stephen Alexander, our internal auditor and these, together with other relevant documents will be sent to the Audit Commission for their approval in due course.

In terms of receipts into the current account, I report as follows:

Precept £7,030.00 – Council voted to increase the precept by 3% . (Minute 14/13)
Council Tax Support Scheme Grant reduced to £365.67 from the previous year of £554.05
Vat rebate £ 162.43 from 2013/2014.

Of the fixed term investments held by the Parish Council, £10,000 matured in July 2014 & monies were agreed not to be reinvested but to be held in the current account to cover future improvement costs on the village green, anticipated costs of tree work on the village green from the tree inspection report, replacement or repair of the bus shelters in Hazeley Bottom, replacement or repair of the noticeboards if required and contingencies (minute reference 14/89 & 15/08). The remaining £15,000 is currently held in a 3 year fixed term account matures on 4 July 2016. Funds are earmarked for a future Parish / Village Hall.

Explanation of significant variances in the accounting statements are as follows:

Clerks Salary: (Increase of £533) due to an increase of Clerk's hours in January 2014 to cover change from bi-monthly meetings to monthly meetings (minute reference 14/12).

Administration: (Increase of £796.13). This year included training for 2 new Councillors (Councillor Bob Aylmer & Councillor Keith Alderman), Chair Training for the new Chair (Councillor Doug Wheeler), and additional planning training for 2 Councillors (Councillor Doug Wheeler & Councillor Adam Knight). The Council also invested in a computer, printer & applications for the Clerk to complete the administration work for the Council. This has resulted in additional costs, but provides for a more efficient and well trained Council to work for the Parish.

Hound Green: (Increase of £3,238.60) due to a regular grass cutting contract for the village green & maintenance of the war memorial, clearing of the brook on the village green, tree inspection report of the trees on the village green, and tree work on trees affecting a neighbouring property on the village green. Maintenance of the village green has been kept in line with agreements with the Bio-Diversity department at Hart District Council and has provided an improved village green to be enjoyed by the Parishioners.

S137: (Decrease £60.00). The Councillors agreed not to make the previous donations to two charities as in previous years but to keep the monies for other well deserved local causes in the Parish.

Subscription: (Increase of £50) due to reasonable price increases from various providers.

Other Payments: (Decrease of £391.64) due to previous renovation costs of noticeboards and bus shelters in the previous year.

This concludes my financial report for 2014/15.