



A.P.C. Financial Report Year End 31st March 2017

The main income for the parish council comes from council tax (known as the precept: £26,000). A.P.C. also receives a concurrent functions grant (£1,050), from A.B.C., for providing services that A.B.C. would usually carry out. This grant has been slowly diminishing for several years now. Central government has provided a grant to County Councils to help with the changes to council tax payments from them. A.P.C. has been fortunate to have in turn received some of this grant (£960) but this too has been reducing as the lower tiers of government have adjusted to the changes. This grant is expected to end in 2020 or sooner. Income from the solar panels is now being regularly collected (£2,560) and should not again be so high, as almost a year and a half was outstanding. Public donations taken from the loos along with the compensation cheque comes to 483.36 for the year.

A.P.C. largest expenditure is that of the loan for the grant to the hall management committee for the acquisition of the hall and refurbishment. £5,000 plus interest is paid every six months. The loan will be repaid in 2020. As is usually the case, the running costs of the council itself, is about half the precept at £8,934. The parish council possesses one major asset, the public conveniences. In the last financial year, total expenditure was around £3,400. Street Cleansing came to about £1,400. Otherwise the council continues to spend its revenue on supporting local groups with grants and donations: a total of £4,000.

Overall the council's expenditure was below its income. This was because there was additional income from donations from the toilets and solar panel fit payments and also because action on speed watch was deferred and there was lower expenditure on salt bins and staff costs. The result was that the unbudgeted expenditure on donations to the History Society, Air Ambulance and Good Neighbours was covered. There is still some outstanding costs for the council: installation of the defibrillators, estimated at £500. Furthermore, once the paperwork is completed the council will take on the K6 telephone box which will require much work.

It is interesting to note, that the council spent less on the toilets, than it donated to local organisations. The budget for 2017-2018 redresses this slightly but the council only has £2,800 budgeted for donations/grants, so it will need to consider very carefully whom it funds. A new feature of the budget is a contingency fund to cover new or unexpected issues. This should be put to its proper use rather than cover over expenditure in budgeted areas or expenditure for items that are not primarily their responsibility. With the reduction in funds the council needs to be selective in its expenditure and, perhaps consider a 2 to 3 year small maintenance works plan.