

Explanation for Significant Differences 2021-22

1. 2020-21

In 2020-21 the Parish Council's normal Income and Expenditure were distorted by:-

- (a) A Grant from GAMP for COVID-19 support, which was subsequently repaid unused.
- (b) The second of two large payments for the Service Level Agreement (SLA) with DCC to retain the Walkers Lane Street Lights.
- (c) An abnormally large VAT Refund, due to the previous year's SLA payment.
- (d) Payments for a new Website to comply with new Government Regulations.
- (e) A mistaken payment from Helen Alexander, which was immediately repaid.

2. 2021-22

In 2021-22 the Parish Council's previously normal Income and Expenditure were again distorted by the:-

- (a) Increase in the Parish Council's Precept due to the increasing number of new Residents at "Elder Gardens" and "Acorn Gardens".
- (b) Necessity for unforeseeable Repairs to Play Area Equipment.
- (c) Necessity to employ HR Consultants to deal with terminating one of our Clerk's Employment (nevertheless, in the event the Parish Council's overall Annual Staff Costs were fairly typical).

If these factors are taken into account, it can be seen that the Parish Council's underlying Expenditure has not altered substantially.

3. Financial Reserves

Due to above unusual payments, although the Parish Council's overall Financial Reserves have increased slightly, recovery was not as much as anticipated. However, they should improve substantially next Financial Year as more new "Elder Gardens" and "Acorn Gardens" Residents pay the Precept.

It remains the Parish Council plan to continue to restore their Financial Reserves to a prudent level. In future, as even more new Residents of "Elder" and "Acorn Gardens" begin to pay the Precept, the Parish Council's Income will increase substantially, without any corresponding increases in their Expenditure, and it may then be able to reduce the Precept.