

Debenham Parish Council – Quarter Two – 2022/2023 Accounts

		Over-Under budget analysis	
Receipts:	Amount:	Reasoning:	Action:
CIL	+£8,697	Impossible to predict	No further action
Bank Interest	+£62	Market fluctuation	No further action
Cemetery	+ variable	Impossible to predict due to nature	No further action
Payments:			
Salaries	-£618	Will change with NJC increase	No further action
Insurance	+ £109	Further increase projected for 2023	Increase budget '23
Audit and Accountancy		Likely to be over budget due to recent increases (changed ownership and market related)	Increase budget '23
Cem. rates	+ £54	Price increase	Increase budget '23
Cem. tree and hedge	+ £215	Non-scheduled clearance works- non predicable	Include provision '23 based on survey
Rec play tree and hedge	+£20	Minor works	No further action
Gardeners' Gen maintenance	+£457	Gate repairs (relative to small regular provision)	No further action
Gardeners New Equipment-capital	+£18,512	New costs centre, funds from swimming club fund and CIL years 1, 2 and 3	Possible legal implications -review
Trees, Greens and Open spaces		Note amount used by end of year- items aging and needing repair/replacement	Increase provision '23

The Debenham Parish Council's financial position at the end of the second quarter demonstrates a very adequate financial management, with a net Receipts over Payments of £42,459. This includes the unexpected Swimming Pool funding of £23,415 but also the unscheduled Gardeners Road capital expenditure (advance) of £18,512ⁱ.

Ageing street furniture repairs and weather-related maintenance items provided the source of most unbudgeted overspends, with current inflationary market trends likely to further impact any remaining regular annually committed expenditure where the due date falls before March 31st, 2023.

Salaries remain on target, but the figure is likely to change due to the NJC increase posted in the November accounts. Further change is likely in next years' budgetary calculations as a result of tabled percentual increases.

Figures due to be published imminently by the Bank of England will show whether the UK economy is facing a recession, particularly following the third quarter GDP contraction of 0.2% . Regardless of that, marked increases are already evident in correspondence received from regular suppliers and contractors, such as energy supply, bin emptying, labour costs. Furthermore, central government cost cuts and budgetary shortfalls on other local authorities are also likely to result on increased local welfare provision needs. This is where local authorities, such as the Debenham Parish Council, are likely to play an even more

significant role. Although funding has been secured for ongoing projects, there are no guarantees that this will be possible in the next financial year.

Ideally, our Council will be able to rely on the tax base increase to continue the current level of delivery without having to rely on any actual precept increase, particularly as all other authorities are expected to increase theirs.

The table below demonstrates the current financial position, up to the end of this financial year, based on projected (albeit prudent) figures for the last quarter:

Opening balance for year 2022/2023	£181,835.57
Add receipts (to 30/09/2022)	£123,606.76
Minus Payments (to 30/09/2022)	<u>-£81,147.74</u>
Balance (as at 30/09/202)	£224,294.59

Projected Income to 31/12/2022	£13,074.39
Projected income to 31/03/2023	<u>£2,150.00</u>
Total projected additional income to 31/03/2023	£15,224.39

Projected Payments to 31/12/2022	-£23,497.65
Projected Payments to 31/03/2023	<u>-£13,437.00</u>
Total projected Payments to 31/03/2023	-£36,934.65

Projected Balance (as at 31/03/2023)	£202,584.33
---	--------------------

Represented by:

Earmarked reserves	£125,200.00
General Reserves	£77,384.33

ⁱ Total amount covered by a vesting certificate at point of order – to be covered under the confidential section.