

Waddington Parish Council

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Y/E 31 March 2019 Explanation of Variances

Summary of Financial Position at Year End:

- Increase in income from £16,339.49 to £29,409.28 in the accounts to year end 31/3/19.
- Increase in expenditure from £17,278.62 to £37,398.15 year on year.
- Although the overall annual account shows an end of year deficit at the end of the 2018/19 financial year of -£7988.87 there was a carried forward surplus balance from 2017/18 of £11,552.13. As a result the overall picture going forward from April 1st is a surplus of £3,563.26

Overall Income Variances:

- The Precept paid by Ribble Valley Borough Council was exactly the same as in the previous financial year (£13,500).
- No Concurrent Function money was paid by RVBC in this financial year – it will be reflected in the next financial year as the payment was paid by BACS with the Precept for 2019/20.
- There was a slight decrease in the income from the allotment rents due to the fact that rents are paid across two financial years, which relates directly to the time taken to work through the waiting list and allocate vacant plots.
- Donations totalling £52.00 were received by hiring out the parish council marquee, a decrease of £1,122.99 year on year.
- There was a credit of £33.40 from E-on for the supply of electricity to the pavilion and £2 was collected from the secure meter on site.
- The VAT refund was £1,013.76 – another refund will be due in the next financial year based on payments made from April 1st 2018 to March 31st 2019.
- Waddington Football Club raised £14,410.08 towards the cost of the new drainage system which was installed at the playing fields during the year.

Overall Expenditure Variances:

- The increase in the clerk's salary year on year (increase of £91.00) is a true reflection of the total costs incurred by the parish council for paying for this service. The breakdown shown for the financial year ending March 31st 2019 reflects 12 monthly payments, together with an agreed additional amount to reflect the requirements of running a remote office.
- Office expenses decreased by £71.87.
- The expense of the annual insurance and membership of the Lancashire Association of Local Councils is reflective of payments for one full 12-month period.
- Donations were made towards a number of local causes totalling £347, an increase of £122 year on year:
 - ❖ Citizens' Advice Bureau (£100);
 - ❖ The Royal British Legion (£85);

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- ❖ Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue (£100);
 - ❖ There But Not There” campaign (£62)
 - The cost of work to the playing fields saw the largest increase in expenditure (increase of £21,209.76) primarily due to the cost of installing a new drainage system for the football field. In previous financial years the parish council had ring-fenced an allocation of money towards the cost of this planned work. In addition a new fence has been installed running the length of the car park to stop cars driving onto the field and damaging the drains.
 - The cost of maintaining the village allotments continues to be borne by the parish council; however in an attempt to offset this the council agreed to increase the annual rent by £5 to £30 for the year beginning January 1st 2019.
 - Overall the cost of maintenance in the village increased by £1,431.74 – costs include more work to preserve the village benches; paying a window cleaner to clean the bus shelters quarterly and repairs to a section of the brook wall which had been damaged earlier in the year. In addition the cost of plants increased as the parish council decided to buy more planters for the village.
 - The village website has been given an overhaul which incurred some additional charges. The changes have been made primarily to focus the website on the parish council itself rather than being reflective of the village as a whole. (increase of £217.20)
 - In light of the work to the drainage of the playing field which has for the most part meant no football or cricket has been played in recent seasons, councillors agreed not to charge either of the village’s clubs rent for the financial year ending March 31st; as a result the cost of running this facility has fallen solely on the parish council (increase of “60.76).
 - As no charge was made for the Christmas tree in 2017/18, the cost of “Christmas” increased year on year in 2018/19 by £220.19
 - However, in addition to the expenditure items detailed above there were a number of other areas where the parish council noted a reduction in expenditure –
 - There was no miscellaneous expenditure identified, this may be as a result of changes made to the way income & expenditure is recorded;
 - There were no costs associated with the SPiD which still proves to be good value for money
 - Costs associated with entering the Lancashire Best Kept Village Competition reduced as expenditure is now recorded as part of general maintenance for the village as a whole, rather than being identified solely for the purposes of this competition
 - Expenditure on the parish questionnaire fell by £357.73 – some costs were incurred due to timing for example the cost of postage was reflected in the financial year 2018/19 rather than in the previous year and in addition the parish council agreed to produce copies of the final report which are available to residents via the village post office.