



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

IMC(20)15

Melton Parish Council – Available Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Resources

In the light of the latest tranche of CIL monies which the Council is set to receive by the end of April 2020, this briefing note summarises exactly where we are with CIL funds. As in previous reports on CIL, for simplicity I've rounded the figures to exclude pence.

Receipts to date:

£4,720 (Oct 2016)

£75,172 (Oct 2017)

£3,652 (Oct 2018)

£147,933 (May 2019)

£97,719 (Oct 2019)

£84,915.73 (April 2020)

The April 2020 payment is the largest by far of any sum received by any local council in East Suffolk at this distribution – the next highest is the sum of £34k paid to Aldringham-cum-Thorpe.

Expenditure to date:

2018/19 £2,324

2019/20 £8,554

Therefore in terms of spend deadlines, the earliest unspent tranche is a balance of £69,014 dating from October 2017.

Accounting for expenditure

I have to produce an annual report to East Suffolk Council on their *pro forma* setting out income / expenditure and sums retained. The report for year ended 31 March 2020 has to be provided by 31 December 2020 and I will bring it to Melton Full Council for sign off before it is sent to East Suffolk.

Of more pressing importance is the fact that whilst in terms of reserves, the Council is able to hold larger sums in earmarked reserves than would be considered appropriate in a general reserve, nevertheless they do need to be held for “genuine and intended purposes”. Whilst there is no doubt of the Council’s genuine desire to spend these sums for the benefit of the community, the CIL “earmarked reserve” (more accurately expressed as a “restricted reserve”) does not specifically “ earmark” any sums against specific projects. In the context that the Council held as at 31 March a closing CIL balance of £318,317 and from the end of April will hold £403,233, Members should consider “ earmarking” sums against projects which have been supported by the community.

It is therefore recommended as follows:

1. The sum of £40k from CIL be placed in an earmarked budget for the Melton Road crossings project agreed for progressing at the Interim Management Committee meeting on 8 April (preparatory work £5k, work on site £30k plus a contingency of £5k)
2. Of projects already committed there is a sum of £50k allocated to improvements in front of Winifred Fison House and this should be placed in a specific earmarked budget.
3. Given that there is both an imperative to do something with the pavilion, and it has already been agreed that it will be replaced, to specifically earmark an initial sum – say £100k – towards this project.

If those steps are taken then at least all pre 2019 receipts will have been allocated to projects which can feasibly be completed within the timescale required.

William Grosvenor

Clerk and Executive Officer to the Council

2 April 2020