



MELTON PARISH COUNCIL

FRM(20)15.02

BUDGET REPORT - 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

Paper FRM(20)15.02a attached sets out the detailed budgetary report as at 30 September 2020 – half way through the financial year.

Overall, with actual expenditure at 44.8% of annual budgeted expenditure, the current position is relatively sound. The receipt of the Covid-19 grant of £10k, which is designed to help with day to day costs and compensate for any reduction in income due to the pandemic, has additionally helped to boost the Council's general reserves.

The projected year end shortfall is now £10.5k. This assumes that significant areas of expenditure, like works to trees, will take place, which may not now happen (see details below) and if it does, such expenditure can be funded from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL).

The likelihood is that on present performance and trends, there will be overall at worst a very small in year deficit, and in all probability either break even or a small surplus might be achieved, particularly if CIL is deployed where appropriate. It should be noted as well that it has always been the intention to fund improvement / essential maintenance works to the divested lands from CIL, so any additional expenditure in respect of these new assets will not impact on the general revenue budget.

Observations in respect of individual budget heads are set out below for information:

Code	Budget head	Narrative
1101	Precept	The whole annual precept of £86,948 has now been received
1103	CIL	£84,916 has been received and transferred to an earmarked reserve A further £78,853 is anticipated in October, but that might be reduced because of construction delays caused by Covid-19
1106	Sundry grants	£550 comprises a grant of £500 for the restoration of the war memorial via Cllr Nicoll and £50 from a member of the public
1109	Rent	This includes the rent due for October
1125	Covid-19 grant	This is the £10k grant from Government paid over by East Suffolk Council
4110	Pension contributions	The Budget covers the employer's contributions. In view of the 2020 pay rise this provision will need to be adjusted upwards by approx. £200
4125	Business rates	These are being paid over 10 months from June 2020 to March 2021. Outturn will be to budget

4131	Audit	This budget includes provision of audits for year ending 31 March 2021
4138	Staff training	This budget will be exceeded due to the Assistant Clerk's training (CiLCA and other tailored training including on the planning system)
4161	Insurance	Expenditure might further increase when Melton PC takes over the divested lands
4170	Legal costs	The code has now been expanded (as can be seen) to encompass other professional costs and the £500 reflects the fee for advice on business rates
4212	Signage	The cost of the SID is actually £2,050, and £1k of that sum was provided by grant received in 2019/20
1305	Tennis Court hire	Income has already exceeded budget by over £45%
4326	Play area	The £50 relates to welding repairs
4327	Play area checks	The budget will need to be increased modestly to provide for the cost of checks on new play equipment acquired via divestment
4328	Play equipment purchase	The £63 relates to purchase of spare parts
4329	Security infrastructure	The £3,890 was funded from CIL
4346	Tree risk assessment	The plan is to have the next inspection carried out in the early months of 2021. The work will be subject to competitive quotes
4355	Woodland – tree works	This budget may not be incurred this year as inspection scheduled for early months of 2021
4363	Memorials restoration	This was funded from grant

William Grosvenor

Clerk and Executive Officer to the Council

7 October 2020