Hazelbury Bryan accounts for the year ending 31st March 2020

The parish council thought the community might be interested in knowing how the parish council is financed and how your money is spent. All this information is available in summary form on our web site but this might be a more accessible format. Making numbers interesting can be tricky so I apologise now if what follows is a bit dry. The numbers are shown overleaf. If anyone wants to ask any questions or wants more detail then please just get in touch and I will be pleased to help.

Income: The main source of income is the Precept. This is the element of your council tax that you pay to Dorset Council that comes to the parish for it to use. We set our budget in November/December for the coming year and have pretty much a free hand in deciding how much we need. Other regular, but more modest, income streams are from the cemetery (burial plots and interments etc), rent from the allotment society, hire fees for Alec's Field pavilion (including cricket and football clubs) and bank interest. We also receive funds from the village hall for its contribution in respect of building insurance. Other income is received from time to time – in 2020 we received some funds from the old Dorset County Council for rights of way and a contribution to some tree work on the Keep. Parish councils are also able to reclaim VAT on purchases so you will note we received £3,294.80 which is precisely the VAT we incurred in the year end 31st March 2019.

Expenditure: Some elements of expenditure are relatively fixed and have to be paid; other elements are more discretionary in nature and are done with the aim of enhancing the quality of life in the village.

The "fixed" items include the audit (both internal and external), clerks pay and travel expenses, subscriptions, insurance, stationery, postage, pavilion expenses (utilities etc), Public Works Loan Board loan repayments, village hall hire and the web site.

Other costs have some element of flexibility about them, but clearly the land we own and manage requires looking after so there is no escaping some costs. This year we have cut the hedges at the allotments, kept the cemetery neat and tidy with regular grass cutting and hedge trimming, had tree work done on the Keep (trees have a habit of growing and need regular inspections and maintenance) as well as invested funds in the long-term goal of turning the Keep back into a wild flower meadow rather then the rough grass area it had become. The playing field is kept to a high standard in partnership with the sports clubs. We invested a significant sum on consultancy fees for the planning appeal regarding the proposed green-field development in Churchfoot Lane. This was money well spent when the Inspector upheld the decision not to approve the development which was contrary to policies in the Neighbourhood Plan. The cost of the posts for the SID machine were paid in this financial year. Dog bins (emptying and one new bin by the shop) take up a significant share of our expenditure. We undertook some final painting etc work at the pavilion as a capital cost. The "other" costs of £1,249 were spent on a new laptop for the clerk (the old one was at least 10 years old!) and IT and related equipment for the youth club in the pavilion and was funded from the specific reserve held for that purpose.

Reserves: We are required to maintain a contingency reserve of at least 25% of our Precept. We are more cautious so ours is 37%, or £7,500. There are specific earmarked reserves – money for village youth of £4,135 and a cemetery extension of £10,000, footpaths money from Dorset Council and grit reserves. We also have a "general" reserve that fluctuates as money is received and payments made.

Malcolm Wilson, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

July 2020

HBPC

EXPENDITURE

	31/03/2019	31/03/2020
Allotments	-	405.00
Audit	500.55	431.48
Cemetery	1,284.41	1,732.15
Travel & Training	347.35	259.50
Clerk pay, paye	5,000.88	6,425.00
Fees, subs	358.60	370.43
Insurance	2,732.57	2,841.40
Land maintenance	855.89	1,402.84
Office expenses	335.06	465.55
Playing field	1,180.80	1,402.07
Highways	3,604.65	960.00
Pavillion Expenses	949.14	1,073.92
PWLB loan	1,848.44	1,848.44
Village Hall	194.50	104.50
Dog bin emptying	1,320.00	1,613.66
Website	1,591.97	189.24
Other	1,436.79	1,249.05
Pavilion - capital	2,677.27	1,968.54
N Plan	6,485.95	840.10
Total ex vat	**32,704.82**	**25,582.87**
VAT	3,294.80	1,515.59
Total	**35,999.62**	**27,098.46**

INCOME

	31/03/2019	31/03/2020
Precept	18,375.00	19,294.00
Cemetery	1,415.00	705.00
Allotments	515.53	230.00
Insurance	982.42	1,043.91
Interest	16.76	13.44
Pavilion hire	1,135.00	1,460.00
Other	6,625.45	1,926.00
Total ex vat	**29,065.16**	**24,672.35**
Vat reclaim	2,611.64	3,294.80
Total	**31,676.80**	**27,967.15**

Summary - Ex VAT

Income	**29,065.16**	**24,672.35**
Expenditure	**32,704.82**	**25,582.87**
Surplus/(defecit)	**(3,639.66)**	**(910.52)**

RESERVES

	31/03/2019	31/03/2020
Contingency	7,150.00	7,150.00
Earmarked		
Capital - play equipment	4,782.00	4,135.00
Capital - pavilion fitting out	230.00	-
Snow clearance	200.00	200.00
Elections	1,000.00	1,000.00
Footpath from DCC	1,415.00	2,966.00
Cemetery	10,000.00	10,000.00
Neighbourhood Plan	706.00	-
Sub total	**25,483.00**	**25,451.00**
General reserve	1,744.79	2,645.48
TOTAL RESERVES	**27,227.79**	**28,096.48**