

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2023/2024

EXPLANATION OF VARIANCES FROM 2022/2023 VALUES

BOX 3 - INCREASE IN OTHER RECEIPTS FROM £4,716 TO £12,647 (+£7,931)

The significant increase in other receipts income is due to the payment of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) from Bedford Borough Council, in the sum of **£9,357.48** in 2023/2024 that was not repeated in 2022/2023. This is the first payment of CIL received by the Parish Council and it relates to the residential development at Lower Harrowdene, Memorial Lane, Felmersham. By comparison, the total of other grants received in 2022/2023 totalled **£1,624.15**. There was also an increase in investment interest receipts from **£36.90** in 2022/2023 to **£184.79** in 2023/2024.

BOX 4 – DECREASE IN STAFF COSTS FROM £6,311 TO £6,234 (-£77)

The decrease in actual “Staff Costs” from £6,310.95 to £6,234.35 derives from:

- (a) The impact of the nationally negotiated pay award from 1 April 2023 – at an estimated cost (based upon the 312 hours per annum contract of employment, or 6 hours per week) of **£312.00** in 2023/2024. The hourly rate pertaining to the post increased from £19.90 to £20.90 as a consequence of this pay award.
- (b) A decrease in mileage costs claimed in 2023/2024 compared to claims submitted in 2022/2023 of **£12.60**. The actual value of mileage claimed in 2023/2024 totalled £89.55 compared to claims totalling £102.15 in 2022/2023.
- (c) Notification from HMRC, on 2 October 2023, of a credit on the HMRC government gateway account for the Parish Council of **£376.00**.

BOX 6 - INCREASE IN ALL OTHER PAYMENTS FROM £11,092 TO £11,485 (+£393)

The year-on-year variation is identified in the analysis below:

Description of Expenditure	2022/2023 £	2023/2024 £	Variance £
Grasscutting Costs	£4,357.59	£4,851.21	+£493.62
Streetlighting Costs	£525.44	£609.30	+£83.86
Play Area	£130.20	£136.20	+£6.00
Neighbourhood Planning Costs	£1,000.00	0	-£1,000.00
Professional Fees	£320.00	£330.00	+£10.00
Office Expenses	£537.79	£548.45	+£10.66
Insurance	£1,847.00	£1,925.46	+£78.46
Village Hall Hire	£40.00	£80.00	+£40.00
Subscriptions (BATPC, SLCC, Data Protection)	£316.00	£346.00	+£30.00
Parish Assets	£278.40	£1,189.00	+£910.60
Grounds Maintenance	£936.00	£648.00	-£288.00
Other Costs	£803.98	£821.71	+£17.73
TOTAL	£11,092.40	£11,485.33	+£392.93

The key year-on-year variances were as follows:

- (a) An increase in grasscutting costs of **£493.62** in 2023/2024 compared to 2022/2023 due to the increased need for the grasscutting service (from 12 cuts in 2022/2023 to 13 cuts in 2023/2024). There was also an increase in grasscutting rates from £362.22 per cut to £373.17 per cut effective from 1 January 2023 (an increase of £10.95 per cut).
- (b) The increase in streetlighting costs is due to the increase in electricity supply costs in 2023/2024.
- (c) The neighbourhood planning process concluded when the Felmersham & Radwell Neighbourhood Plan was formally adopted by Bedford Borough Council by Executive Decision on 4 July 2022. Costs associated with the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of **£1,000.00** were incurred in 2022/2023 but no further costs were incurred in 2023/2024.
- (d) An increase in the cost of insurance, at renewal, of **£78.46** in 2023/2024 compared to the premiums that applied in 2022/2023.
- (e) There was a significant cost incurred in maintaining parish assets in 2022/2023, totalling **£1,189.00** in 2023/2024 with (i) repairs to a damaged dog bin (£30.00), (ii) repairs to bus shelter damage (£794.40), (iii) seat base repair work (£322.00) and (iv) bus shelter maintenance (£42.60). Expenditure on parish assets in 2022/2023 was limited to the provision of replacement Xmas tree lights for Radwell at a cost of **£278.40**.
- (f) There was a reduction in grounds maintenance costs from £936.00 in 2022/2023 to £648.00 in 2023/2024. This was due to a reduced strimming service at Daisy Bank tree plantation, with a cost of **£576.00** incurred in 2022/2023 for two strims, compared to **£288.00** for a single trim in 2023/2024. Other ground maintenance costs of **£360.00** were incurred in both years, for the annual cutting the playing field hedge and churchyard beech hedge.

BOX 9 - VALUE OF FIXED ASSETS

There were no acquisitions or disposals in 2023/2024. The range of assets are identified in the attached Asset Register with a total value of **£71,781.46**.

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL PARISH COUNCIL

ASSET REGISTER 2024

Asset Register 2023 - as at 31 March 2023 the following assets were held:

Item	Date Acquired	Location Held	Approximate Value £
Standard Lamp Post x8	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Decorative Street Light Post x2	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Notice Boards x2	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Seats x4	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Brick Bus Shelter	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Bus Shelters (Radwell) x2	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Benches x2	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	53,200]
Phoenix Seats x4	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Flagpole	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Litter and Dog Bins x6	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Village Entrance Gates	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Parish Burial Ground	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Play Area	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
War Memorial	Pre 1 April 2014	Village	]
Provision of Tree Pit	October 2015	Radwell Green	700.00
100m low voltage: white lights	November 2015	Village	459.00
100m low voltage: white lights	February 2023	Village	232.00
Defibrillator AED Unit/Cabinet	July 2017	Village	0
Information Sign	February 2018	Village	70.08
Streetlighting Units: LED Upgrade	March 2019	Village	2,720.00
Union Flag	October 2019	Village	87.50
Radar Speed Sign (Felmersham)	October 2019	The High Road, Felmersham	2,929.00
Huawei 7" Media Tablet	December 2019	Chair's Address	59.99
Radar Speed Sign (Radwell)	March 2021	Felmersham Road, Radwell	2,929.00
Glasdon Litter/Dog Bin (Radwell)	June 2021	Radwell Green	550.00
Littlethorpe Wooden Bus Shelter (Felmersham)	September 2021	The High Road, Felmersham	7,718.00
Glasdon Dog Bin	November 2021	Radwell Road, Felmersham	126.89

TOTAL VALUE AT 31 MARCH 2023

71,781.46

Amendments made during 2023/2024:

Acquisitions	Location	Make/Serial Number	Purchase Cost £
None			
TOTAL VALUE			0
Disposals (at original cost value)		Date of Sale/Scrap	Sales Value £
Sales		-	-
None			
Other Disposals (e.g. Scrapped)			-
None			
TOTAL VALUE			0
TOTAL VALUE AS AT 31 MARCH 2024			71,781.46

The basis of valuation of assets is original cost.