

# **Annual Parish Meeting 2021**

## **Financial Report**

On the following pages, please see:

- i) A summary of the council's accounts for 2020-21 and budget for 2021-22.
- ii) Explanatory notes.

If you would like a full copy of the accounts or budget, then please ask the Clerk, who will ensure a copy is delivered to you as soon as possible.

As is normally the case this soon after the close of the last financial year, the accounts for 2020-21 have not yet been audited. The accounts will be prepared for audit in the proper manner in due course by the Clerk, in his role as the Responsible Financial Officer.

Councillor Alan Anderson.

<b>KINGS LANGLEY PARISH COUNCIL</b>				
<b>APM 2021 BUDGET/ACCOUNTS</b>				
	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>2021-22</b>
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Outturn</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Budget</b>
<b>REVENUE INCOME</b>				
Precept (KLPC Share of Council Tax)	116,890.57	116,890.57		119,872.78
Central Govt Council Tax Benefit Grant	2,114.43	2,114.43		1,057.22
National Savings/Bank Interest	350.00	394.59		150.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>119,355.00</b>	<b>119,399.59</b>		<b>121,080.00</b>
<b>PRECEPT</b>				
Precept	116,890.57			119,872.78
Resource Base (Amount of Taxpayers)	2,323			2,302
Band D Property	50.32			52.07
Band G Property	83.87			86.79
Increase				3.5%
<b>REVENUE EXPENDITURE</b>				
Staff Costs	52,895.00	52,447.39	-447.61	54,360.00
Administration	12,515.00	10,780.88	-1,734.12	12,790.00
Charter Court Costs	17,755.00	22,039.25	4,284.25	19,775.00
Village Clock Maintenance	215.00	218.00	3.00	220.00
Achiet-le-Grand Twinning	500.00	0.00	-500.00	0.00
Best Kept Gardens Competition	1,000.00	0.00	-1,000.00	1,000.00
Carnival Donation	250.00	0.00	-250.00	250.00
Christmas Festival	9,180.00	5,118.85	-4,061.15	9,330.00
Community Run Donation	150.00	0.00	-150.00	150.00
Donations to Village Groups	1,000.00	1,850.00	850.00	1,000.00
Transfer to Projects Fund	1,500.00	1,500.00		0.00
Concurrent Services (Net of Grant)	22,395.00	20,076.79	-2,318.21	22,205.00
Parish Paths Partnership (Net of Grant)	0.00	0.00		0.00
VAT (Net of Previous Year)	0.00	-2,316.65	-2,316.65	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>119,355.00</b>	<b>111,714.51</b>	<b>-7,640.49</b>	<b>121,080.00</b>
<b>EXCESS INCOME/EXPENSE</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>7,685.08</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>BALANCES</b>				
<b>Balances at 1st April</b>	<b>15,164.75</b>	<b>15,659.49</b>		<b>15,030.35</b>
Excess Income/Expenditure	0.00	7,685.08		0.00
Transfer to Self Insurance Fund	0.00	-500.00		0.00
Transfer to Projects Fund	0.00	-7,000.00		0.00
<b>Balances at 31st March</b>	<b>15,164.75</b>	<b>15,844.57</b>		<b>15,030.35</b>
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	2020-21	2020-21		2021-22
	Budget	Outturn		Budget
<b>PROJECTS FUND</b>				
<b>Projects Fund at 1st April</b>	<b>38,653.02</b>	<b>47,191.90</b>		<b>46,538.44</b>
Transfers from Expenditure/Balances	1,500.00	8,500.00		0.00
Community Infrastructure Levy Receipts	0.00	1,900.10		0.00
Old Palace PH & Cottages Curtillage	-2,000.00	0.00		-2,000.00
Common Top Parking Areas	-2,000.00	0.00		0.00
Abbots Rise Flowerbed Installation	-1,000.00	0.00		0.00
Right of Way/Pound Presentations	-5,000.00	0.00		0.00
Highways Signage	-750.00	-76.80		-750.00
High Street Hitching Rail	-1,500.00	0.00		-1,500.00
Hempstead Rd Curtillage	-1,500.00	0.00		-1,500.00
Giant Sundial	-2,525.00	0.00		-2,810.00
Parish Plans	-14,000.00	-2,585.57		-4,000.00
High Street/Transport Study	0.00	-4,980.00		0.00
Apsley Grange Noticeboard	-1,850.00	0.00		-1,850.00
Village Garden Path	0.00	0.00		-6,700.00
Abbots Langley Repair Shed	0.00	0.00		-3,500.00
Village Signs	0.00	0.00		-6,600.00
Fitness/Play Equipment Trail	0.00	0.00		-8,100.00
<b>Total Movement</b>	<b>-30,625.00</b>	<b>2,757.73</b>		<b>-39,310.00</b>
<b>Projects Fund at 31st March</b>	<b>8,028.02</b>	<b>49,949.63</b>		<b>7,228.44</b>
<b>FUND CHANGES</b>				
Balances	0.00	185.08		0.00
Elections Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00		1,000.00
IT Fund	-2,000.00	-1,050.00		-2,000.00
Self-Insurance Fund	0.00	500.00		0.00
Charter Court Fund	-19,900.00	1,925.40		-3,500.00
Achiet-le-G Twinning Fund	500.00	0.00		0.00
Christmas Lights Fund	-750.00	0.00		-750.00
Warden Van Fund	1,500.00	1,500.00		1,500.00
Concurrent Maint Fund	-650.00	4,548.32		-5,050.00
Projects Fund	-30,625.00	2,757.73		-39,310.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>-50,925.00</b>	<b>11,366.53</b>		<b>-48,110.00</b>
<b>FUNDS AT YEAR END</b>				
Balances	15,164.75	15,844.57		15,030.35
Elections Fund	3,170.58	3,170.58		4,170.58
IT Fund	1,646.70	2,676.70		1,501.70
Self-Insurance Fund	2,000.00	2,500.00		2,500.00
Charter Court Fund	2,519.62	24,345.02		2,419.62
Achiet-le-G Twinning Fund	503.17	3.17		3.17
Christmas Lights Fund	1,355.54	2,105.54		1,355.54
Warden Van Fund	10,750.00	10,750.00		12,250.00
Concurrent Maint Fund	1,881.31	8,117.99		2,687.99
Projects Fund	8,028.02	49,949.63		7,228.44
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,019.69</b>	<b>119,463.20</b>		<b>49,147.39</b>

# **Annual Parish Meeting 2021**

## **Financial Report - Explanatory Notes**

### **Outturn 2020-21**

Covid 19 - The council was not unduly affected by the pandemic, because in normal times it is a very active council, and saved considerably more expenditure from not being able to do things than it lost through losing non-tax income.

Staff Costs - No staff training took place during the year.

Administration - The £1.7k underspend occurred as the Chairman's allowance was not fully spent, last year's annual parish meeting didn't happen, and there was less printing.

Charter Court Costs - The £4.3k overspend happened as the Council lost £3.5k in hall hire receipts, and had to catch-up an electricity backlog caused by inaccurate estimating.

Twinning/Best Kept Gardens Competition/Carnival/Community Run - These did not take place due to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Christmas Festival - We kept the light displays going, extending the time for which they were up and working, and added a new competition to judge residential light displays around the village, but we couldn't run the event itself due to the pandemic.

Donations to Village Groups - We had the underspend elsewhere in the budget to go over budget supporting village groups who contacted us for help, and would have spent more, but the rules on this kind of expenditure are quite limited.

Concurrent Services - The underspend occurred as the Warden did not need as much supplies to carry out his reduced role during the pandemic.

VAT (Net of Previous Year) - The council is reimbursed for the VAT it spends, but not until the following financial year. This figure, and any overspend/underspend, are therefore only a reflection of the relative amounts spent on VAT across the two years.

Transfer to Self Insurance Fund - The council has a self insurance fund to cover the cost of replacing items of less value than the council's insurance excess. The fund was a little on the low side and needs this one-off top-up to be fit for purpose.

Balances - According to good governance and government legislation, Balances should be set at around 5 to 15% of the council's revenue turnover. The revenue figures here are netted of receipts income, and the turnover for 2021-22 is budgeted at £150,270.

### **Budget 2021-22**

Precept - This was the minimum increase we needed to balance the budget.

Council Tax Benefit Grant - The Government changed council tax benefit so the benefit is subsidised by local council tax payers rather than the Government. The grant paid by the Government to soften the impact has been reduced gradually since.

Staff Costs - When the Chancellor announced there would be no annual increase in public sector pay, he didn't appear to realise that local government pay rises are determined by negotiation between a national employers association and national unions, not by the Government. Irrespective of the pandemic, it is extremely unlikely that the unions will accept 0%, and the expectation is that the pay rise will be 2.5%.

Charter Court Costs - Unconnected with the pandemic, we have lost a long standing regular hirer of the hall which typically raised £2,000 per year.

Twinning - It will be some time before there is any more twinning activity.

Christmas Festival - A small increase as a result of the afore-mentioned new competition.

Transfer to Projects Fund - Suspended in lieu of the large surplus obtained from 2020-21.

## **Projects Fund**

In 2020-21, the council:

- Installed additional road safety signs in Rucklers Lane.
- Financed the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for Kings Langley.
- Commissioned a study of the High Street & associated transport issues.

In 2021-22, the council has budgeted, once the Covid 19 crisis has passed, to:

- Contribute to the improvement of the edge of the Common adjacent to Love Lane.
- Implement a tourism sign at the M25 junction 20 roundabout.
- Plan the potential replacement of the hitching rail in the High Street.
- Contribute to the Football Club fixing the highways verge in Hempstead Road.
- Complete the implementation of a giant sundial on the edge of the Common.
- Complete the Neighbourhood Plan and finance a Parish Plan.
- Install a new public noticeboard in front of Apsley Grange in the north of the Parish.
- Implement a new pathway surface around the Village Garden.
- Contribute towards the cost of a new Repair Shed in Abbots Langley.
- Install new way marking signs around the village.
- Setup a fitness/play equipment trail around the village.

Away from the Projects Fund, the council is investing in installing solar panels at our premises at Charter Court, Vicarage Lane - it demonstrates our commitment to combating climate change in a practical way, and the cost of solar panels has fallen to the point where projects like these can save money.

Councillor Alan Anderson.