

DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2017/18 FOR APPROVAL 17 NOVEMBER 2016

ANTICIPATED RECEIPTS 17/18	DESCRIPTION OF PAYMENTS/RECEIPTS	PROPOSED BUDGET 2017/18	Actual spend 2016/17 to Oct 2016 (7 months)	Budget 2016/17	Actual spend 2015/16	Budget 2015/16
250	Bottle bank					
1000	Grant DEFRA/RPA					
50	Wayleaves					
8000	Precept & LA grant					
300	Journal contribution					
	Grants s137	300	150	300	300	300
	Administration (includes room hire, Data control, payroll, mileage)	200	35	200	135	195
	Journal (net printer costs)	500	207.50	600	473.83	400
	Personnel (wages, tax, clerks expenses)	3700	953.04	3700	3514.44	3600
	Greens (cutting + mole control)	1800		1500	1648.01	1000
	Audit fee	300	224	300	218	300
	Insurance	400	348.74	400	351.53	400
	Reserves/legal fees	300		500	50	500
	Subscriptions	300	185	300	205	300
	Training	300	40	300	180	300
	Tree work fund			1000	1150	1000
	Misc (litter pick honarirum)	150	445.50		338.52	200
	Village maintenance (including churchyard maint, and capital expense for replacement village furniture)	800	437.75	1000	819.97	2300
	Scanner (grant funded)	0		0	149.99	500
	Website	350	59.97	300	839.54	
	Defibrillator on-costs	200	190.50	200	13	
9600	TOTAL COSTS	9600	3,227	10,600	11037.52	11295

The budgeted payments for 2017/18 total £9600 and include:-

- Routine spending largely in line with last year's levels with some slight upward adjustment to cover inflation
- A sum in legal/reserves (£300) to deal with any unforeseen in-year contingency
- The village maintenance allocation (£800) is intended to deal with maintenance of street furniture, any dog bin cleaning charges to be introduced etc. (Mole control is now included in the greens maintenance cost centre). A number of village assets have been recently replaced so no significant costs are anticipated in this regard for 17/18. If significant expenditure becomes necessary through the course of the year – or for example any contribution towards HCC maintenance costs is agreed – reserves are available if the budgeted allocation proves insufficient. It is anticipated that any request for churchyard

maintenance would be met under this heading. In July 2013 the PC gave a two year commitment to pay up to £450pa in this regard. A request for further support is likely.

- No allocation has been made to tree work for 17/18 as monies are now held in the reserves for this purpose.
- Personnel item includes fixed costs for salary and the homeworkers allowance plus an allowance of approx £600 to cover clerks expenses such as post, stationery, mileage and any agreed uplift to salary in line with inflation etc

Anticipated **receipts for 2017/18 total £1600 plus the precept**. This figure is approx. £1000 less than 16/17 reflecting the fact that no Environmental Stewardship Agreement payments will be received after Jan 2017 pending processing of a new application which, even if successful, will result in the loss of 11 months grant. On this basis there is a **shortfall of £8000, being the gross precept figure it is proposed to request from St Eds**. This is identical to the combined precept and grant awarded for 2016/17, 2015/16, 2014/15 and 2013/14.

Overall spending for 2015/16 was largely on budget, subject to:-

- Some over/underspend on various cost centres, which by and large balanced out;
- Costs were incurred for the website for which no prior budget allocation had been made. Appropriate provision has now been made from within the budget.

Spending for 2016/17 (year- to -date) is largely within budget subject to:-

- Overspend in miscellaneous cost centre attributable to an unbudgeted contribution to the HCC towards the Queens Birthday tea party.

The Council's costs will clearly rise with inflation as time goes on, whereas no rise in the precept and grant is proposed for 2017/18. When considering whether a combined precept and grant figure of £8000 will be adequate for 2017/18, Councillors need to be aware that the LA grant element are being phased out completely and no further such grant payments will be awarded from 17/18 onwards. Indeed next year (on the basis of the grant cuts confirmed by St Eds and last years' tax base figures) each Hawstead household will receive a small rise in council tax, even though the amount of combined grant and precept requested is maintained at last year's rate of £8,000.

Reserves of approximately £19,868 were carried forward in March 2016.

These monies have been notionally ring fenced in line with the Reserves Policy as follows:-

- (i) General Reserves: Up to the level of the precept received from year to year. For the year commencing 1 April 2017 general reserves shall therefore be £8000
- (ii) Tree Work fund £6000.
- (iii) Any reserves held over and above the General Reserves and the Tree Work Fund shall be allocated to a Development Fund.