

Welton-by-Lincoln Parish Council

Financial Report 2019/2020

The Parish Council raises as a Precept, each year to finance the services it provides and improve the facilities it manages.

From September each year the Council and its committees meet and discuss future projects and spending requirements. An estimate of the precept for the following financial year is required by WLDC at the end of November, with the final demand being submitted by the end of January.

When setting the precept, members are mindful of making increases and implements cuts where possible; consideration is given to the services the Council has to deliver and they prioritise these very carefully. These include, but are not exhaustive:

- Village maintenance – arranging grass cutting, painting benches & railings, litter picking and emptying litter bins, gritting and many other daily tasks
- Staffing the Parish Office and employment of the facilities team
- Managing the hire and maintenance of Manor Park Sports Club
- Maintenance to the playing fields and play areas including the Skate Park
- Operating the Library service and providing Community Hub events
- Floral displays, Welton in Bloom and ways we can improve the environment

The Precept this year was £150,637. Income £42,794 including £9,821 of grant funding and contributions, with expenditure of £72,802. Monies in the bank and Ear Marked Reserves held at the year end total £194,660.

Income is generated from hiring out the facilities at Manor Park, Library services, sale of books and village maps, the provision of laminating and photocopying services, allotment rents and bank account interest.

The Council has received the following grants/contributions:

£8,160	Lincolnshire County Council	Library – Revenue Grant
£1,661	Lincolnshire County Council	Grass cutting contribution

Manor Park generated income of £30,689 from the hire of the 3G pitch, playing field, pavilion and bowls green. The costs for essential maintenance to the building, security, grounds, 3G pitch and bowls green was £27,365. £2,805 was spent on the maintenance and replacement of play equipment.

The **Library & Community Hub** had income of £436 from fines, printing, photocopying and the sale of donated books; Lincolnshire County Council has confirmed it will continue to pay the annual revenue grant of £5,167 for the foreseeable future. The Community Hub events have proved to be very popular and it is hoped they can resume as soon as possible.

The **Environment Committee** oversees the allotments which generated income of £285. The cost of the Christmas tree, purchase, erection and removal, putting up and taking down the lights and the provision of refreshments at the tree lighting was £1,018. Planting up and maintaining the floral displays cost £1,982 which includes the purchase of five new planters. Maintenance to trees and shrubs on public open space areas, additional work required to trees and strimming footpaths came to £6,727.

The **Highways & Utilities Committee** expenditure in the main has been £6,084 for grass cutting and grounds maintenance in the village and churchyard. The purchase and installation of new oak posts on the corner of Cliff Road cost £577.

The **Publications & Heritage Committee** paid for the printing of the Community Aid cards which were delivered to all households in Welton and Dunholme, very kindly arranged by Garry and Jo Crowther at The Paper Shop.

Councillors have incurred expenses totalling £211; covering the cost of training courses and travel expenses.

The Parish Council awarded £150 to the War Memorial Flower Fund and paid £266 for Public Liability insurance for the May Day Fair (which has now been refunded).

The Council appoints an internal auditor to assess the Council's internal controls on a regular basis; covering procedures such as ensuring payments made have been signed off by the Council, contracts are correctly quoted and awarded, that the Council has adequate insurance and that financial risks to the Council are properly managed.

The accounts for 2018/2019 were signed off by the Internal and External Auditors and the notice displayed for the required period on the Parish Council Notice Board.

The precept for 2020/21 is £166,177. This represents a 10.32% increase or 20p per week for a Band D Property estimated on 2020/21 levels.

The work I and my team carry out continues to increase; in particular, this year co-ordinating the Community Aid project for Welton and Dunholme. Welton Parish Council is a very proactive council; its members are all unpaid volunteers who want to make a difference to where they live.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Councillors for their continued support. I cannot do all this alone and take this opportunity of thanking Linda, my Deputy Clerk for all her hard work and support; unfortunately, she left us at the end of June to move with her family near to the coast. The facilities team have continued their hard work with a forever increasing list of jobs and for that I thank them.

Julie Murray, PSLCC
Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
Welton-by-Lincoln Parish Council