

Welton-by-Lincoln Parish Council

Financial Report 2022/23

The Parish Council raises a Precept, each year to finance the services it provides and improve the facilities it manages. When setting the precept, members are mindful of making increases and implementing cuts where possible; consideration is given to the services the Council has to deliver and they prioritise these very carefully.

The Precept in 2022/23 was £139,893 an increase of 13.6%, following the reduction of 15.7% in the previous financial year when the council had been mindful of the impact of the Pandemic; with income of £162,831 including grants of £115,138 and expenditure of £273,810; £161,291 of which was spent on the two new MUGAs etc. at Manor Park and £6,663 on the new swing unit at the Ryland Road play area. Monies in the bank and Ear Marked Reserves held at the yearend totalled £115,793. Income is generated from hiring out the facilities at Manor Park, Library services, sale of books, the provision of laminating and photocopying services, allotment rents and bank account interest.

The precept for 2021/22 was £159,010, representing a 15.77% decrease on the previous year; members were mindful of the impact the pandemic had left.

Expenditure for the year ended 31.3.23 included:

- Staff costs were £105,454 – the council employs 8 members of staff with a constantly increasing workload
- Village Maintenance including floral displays, footpath strimming and work to trees was £12,670.
- Grass cutting was £5,575 with a contribution of £1,926 received from LCC
- Celebration and Christmas tree lighting events £10,569
- Manor Park staffing and maintenance was £29,586, income of £36,488
- Library operation £5,038 with an annual revenue grant from LCC of £5167

The precept for 2023/24 is £202,250; an increase of 27.13% on 2022/23 which equates to approximately £1.64 per month, per household. The Council has been mindful in setting the budget and was able to keep the precept lower last year. The main factors for this are the anticipated inflationary increases to products and services provided to the Parish Council, planned/future Village events, rises in pension costs, 9.7% increase in the national living wage, National Insurance contributions, increases in the price of fuel and the unprecedented rise in energy costs which all contribute to increased expenditure for the council.

The work I and my team carry out continues to increase and the 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, in particular Cllr Fletcher who helps me look after the finances. I cannot do all this alone and would like to take this opportunity of thanking Louise, our Deputy Clerk for all her support with running the office and our new Administration Assistant, Hazel Bell who joined us in January. The facilities team have continued their hard work with a forever increasing workload and for that I thank them all.

Julie Murray, PSLCC
Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer