Middleton Tyas Parish Council

Finance Report

8 November 2018

There are no significant issues to report in respect of the current financial year. The cash balance, as of 3 November, is £20036. As advised at the last meeting, this cash balance does include £750 for the next phase of bulb planting initiative. As yet we still have not received any payment from the football club for the current year.

Year to date income currently exceeds expenditure by some £4300 following the receipt of the full precept at the end of September. It is projected that by the end of the financial year there will be an overall deficit of around £1200 reflecting the cost of the upgrade to the website for which grant funding was received in the previous financial year. The projected out-turn also makes provision for expenditure of £2000 on resolving playpark issues and the non-recovery from NYCC of the cost of felling the tree adjacent to the school entrance.

At the December meeting, we will need to determine the precept that we require for the financial year 2019/20. A draft budget for next year is attached. The underlying projected result for the current year is broadly at breakeven after adjusting for the timing of payment for the website upgrade. As a result, we are likely to have around £14500 in the bank at the end of this financial year. The draft budget indicates that we will have a deficit of around £600 in the next financial year. This assumes that we will need to spend £1000 on further maintenance and repairs to the playpark next year and that we will have to resume our support for the village news at the previous level. It has become apparent this year that keeping the playpark in a safe condition whilst having the flexibility to employ a handyman and take other actions to maintain the village has fundamentally increased our cost base. Given the requirement to undertake a full consultation with residents and then raise substantial funds, we are unlikely to see the full redevelopment of the playpark for some time and so we will need to invest in continued repairs and maintenance if we are to keep it open. In view of this and other potential liabilities, I would recommend a £2000 increase in the precept to ensure that we have sufficient funds at our disposal to be able to take prompt action as issues arise. This approach should also allow us to have the funds to make some investment in the redevelopment of the playpark and potentially leverage grants for this purpose.

Bob Davies

3 November 2018