

## WEELEY PARISH COUNCIL

### 2018/2019 BUDGET QUARTER 3 REPORT

### AND PRECEPT SETTING FOR 2019/2020

	Full year budget	Q3 predicted	EOY predicted [net]	2019/20 proposed	
Admin	10190	8019	9736	12550	
Capital	3200	1429	1429	3200	
Grants	1020	987	987	1020	
Grounds maintenance	5550	3571	4753	5500	
Lighting	18300	12774	14992	17980	Inc. £3,000 for replacements
Parish maintenance	2650	80	5793	3350	Inc. noticeboard repairs, bins, benches & bus shelter repairs
Parks	1480	656	1406	1370	Inc. football goals £750
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,340</b>	<b>27,516</b>	<b>39,096</b>	<b>44,970</b>	

#### Administration

Expenditure for this budget heading is generally predictable throughout the year. There have been minor underspends on a number of headings, including our insurance premium due to a move to an alternative provider.

There was an unbudgeted item of £500 for office rental which will need to be planned for next year.

Next year we must plan for a contested parish council election. TDC cannot advise on exact fees, but the fee in 2015 was 1432

An increase in the pay rate which will take effect in April plus an expected additional spinal column projection point means that an additional £500 of expenditure on salaries is expected. Together with this year's increase in hours means that the salary budget needs to rise to £5,700.

We have not needed to spend our professional fees budget but it is prudent to allow for this in next year's budget.

Stationery expenses this year included £225 for new lap top hard drive and repairs.

#### Capital

Our capital budget this year was £3,200. We have spent a total of £1,429 on the defibrillator. We are also anticipating the following spend by the end of the year: fire station bench and installation

£1,000 + Clacton Rd bench £1,000; noticeboards £1,540; bus shelter repair £1,173; bins £1,000; football goals £750. I have shown these amounts against other relevant budgets.

### **Grants**

We have maintained the grant for churchyard maintenance to £500 and also made grants of £ 470 to the Weeley in Bloom campaign. We may need to consider the implications of legal advice relating to the granting of monies for church purposes.

### **Grounds maintenance**

Expenditure is in line with budget.

### **Lighting**

Over the past two years we have budgeted a total of £14,255 to upgrade all lights to LED. Just under half of this total was to replace the complete unit of the old SOX type fitting. The remainder was to upgrade the newer style of lights by replacing the bulbs. We are now aware of multiple failures of some of these upgraded lights which fall outside the warranty. The only alternative therefore is to replace with complete new units. We do not yet know how many will need to be replaced, but I suggest allocating a budget of £3,000 for this purpose.

### **Parish maintenance**

The four 'Bs' - bus shelters, bins, boards and benches will account for a significant sum of money by the end of the financial year.

### **Parks**

Expenditure is in line with budget and includes an allowance of £750 for football goals.

### **Summary**

Our full year budget figure was £42,340 and our predicted end of year spending figure is £39,096.

### **Planning for 2019/20**

A key decision for 2019/2020 relates to ECC's pilot project devolving a variety of responsibilities to parishes. WPC would get £1,204 based on a population of 1768 at 0.68 per head. We already get £1,448 from ECC for verge cutting so it is suggested that, based on the information currently available to us, it would not be beneficial to join the pilot.

Parish Council elections are due in 2019. Election expenses were £1,432 in 2015 for contested election. If the election is uncontested, TDC will levy a small re-charge.

An allowance of £3,000 should be made for replacement street lights as described above.

## **Precept**

There are two amounts which make up the Council's main source of income from TDC. The first is the Local Council Tax Support Scheme Grant which this year is £726 (less than last year's figure of £1,813). 2019/20 is the last year that this grant will be paid.

The second is the precept. The amount we receive depends on what is called the 'tax base' which is a calculation which converts properties in Weeley to 'Band D equivalent' properties. It is also affected by the number of exempt properties and the number of homes where residents are entitled to claim benefits. The tax base for Weeley has followed an upward trajectory for the last three years. 631.3 for 17/18, 657.6 for 2018/19 and 681 for 2019/20.

The total proposed budget is £44,970 less £1,448 due from ECC for verge cutting, giving a total requirement of £43,522.

The recommendation for the financial year 2019/20 is to request a precept figure of £43,522 made up of the LCTSS grant from TDC of £726 and the precept amount of £42,796. This equates to a Council Tax figure of £62.84, An increase of 2% on the current year figure of £61.63. Last year we had a very small increase of 0.6%.