WILLINGALE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: S Smith

Telephone: 07400133516
Email clerk@willingaleparishcouncil.org.uk

2021/2022 AGAR - Overview

As Councillors will be aware, all Parish Councils must complete an Annual Governance and Accountability Return or "AGAR". This year, as for last year we are an "exempt authority" because our total income/expenditure was less than £25,000, which means we do not need to have our financial statements externally audited (saving us a cost of £200 + VAT).

However, an *internal* Audit, remains a mandatory requirement, and our Clerk has arranged this with an independent third party, Karen Weare, who has made the necessary declaration on Page 4, Part 2 of the AGAR.

It is a mandatory requirement to publish our AGAR on the Parish Council website under the "Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities" and the Code recommends that there are *"numerical and narrative explanations available for significant variances*" in the accounting statements. For Willingale Parish Council the financial summary looks like this:

	Year Ended 3/21	Year Ended 3/22	Difference
Precept	5,195	5,285	90
Total Receipts	3,767	5,494	1,727
Staff Costs	1,982	1,986	4
Other Costs	3,406	7,284	3,878

The key changes this year are summarised below:

Income

- **Precept:** Non-material change.
- **Total Receipts + £1,727:** The key driver behind the increase in income was a grant receipt of £1,226 towards the cost of the village defibrillator. There was also an increase of almost £500 in advertising income.

Expenditure

- **Staff Costs:** Non-material change
- **Other costs + £3,878:** The underlying cause was spread across many areas, but mostly:
  - Room hire costs were up from £18 to £130 as we moved back to physical meetings
  - We incurred election charges of £155 (nil in 2021).
  - We paid out £1276 for the defibrillator
  - Verge cutting was £2,720 (£900 in 2021) as we only paid for one cut in 2021 due to quality issues and had 3 cuts in 2022

Meeting Procedures

In line with statutory guidance, the Council received and noted the internal audit report prior to approving the annual governance statement, and thereafter the accounts themselves.

After the meeting, the accounts are published on the website together with a notice (also placed on the noticeboard) setting out the period during which members of the public may exercise their rights to inspect the accounts.

David Stokes, Chair
17th May 2022