



# BEMBRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

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## Budget Qtr 3 Oct - Dec Report

### Income:

At the end of Qtr 2 we had an expected additional income figure of £6,437.00.

Income from cemetery fees has again pushed this expected final income figure up to £7,502. We have a remaining forecast income of only £1,000 from cemetery fees in the final quarter. It is therefore highly probable that the final annual income will increase further, however at this point it is advisable to remain conservative with our forecasts.

### Expenditure:

**Administration Costs:** currently showing as slightly over budget, however, I believe that there may be further savings in the final quarter that should bring this back to around even.

**Legal & Professional:** the amount in the budget for 'Elections' has been released as this will not be used in this financial year. However, the full amount for Professional Fees of £15,000 is still included in costs. This is very likely to become part of the underspend at the end of the year at which time we will need to consider how we carry this forward in reserves.

**Staffing Costs:** The Supervisor Lengthsman's hours cleaning and maintaining the public toilets have now been more accurately charged to the 'Toilet Cleaning' line. The underspend on 'Staff' is as a result of the lower than budgeted NJC pay agreement and the changes in office staff throughout the year. (n.b. original budget was for qualified Clerk and RFO).

**Motoring Costs:** slight underspend due to lowering of fuel costs throughout year and more efficient use of the van e.g. fewer trips to the tip.

**Property Costs:** all within budget including the saving from taking toilet cleaning 'in-house'.

**Maintenance/Gardening Costs:** slightly over on 'Waste' due to increased use of skip hire (see lower motoring costs above), and addition of office recycling, but we should be able to offset this against savings elsewhere by the end of the year.

**Projects/Events/Donation Costs:** all on budget as expected, suggest that any underspend in committee budgets is carried over to 'top-up' the 25/26 committee budgets.

**Earmarked Reserves:** No expenditure on park, solar panels or EV as expected. However, there has also been no spend so far on Neighbourhood Plan or LCWIP, if no expenditure in final qtr carrying over as earmarked reserves for 25/26 should be considered.

**Reserves:** The £10,000 earmarked for improvements to drainage work outside the Point toilets is unlikely to be spent before the end of the year and so the Committee will need to consider this when it decides the allocation of 'Earmarked Reserves' at the end of the year.

'Asset Maintenance Fund' is expected to be reduced to £13,182 by the end of the year, the Committee will also need to decide on a desired balance to carry forward when considering 'Earmarked Reserves' for 25/26.

**Summary:**

**We began the year expecting to raise - 'Steyne Park Regeneration Fund' (£10,000), EV Infrastructure Fund (£2,000) and Solar Panel Fund (£2,000) from the Precept. These funds would be carried over in Earmarked Reserves.**

**As a result of the extra income and the savings as outlined in this report, at the end of QTR 3 we can forecast that we will carry over not only the £14,000 but an additional approx. £22,941. Note that it is expected that this will increase further by the end of the year due to lack of expenditure on Legal & Professional fees. These savings will form part of the discussion at the end of the year on 'Earmarked Reserves' for 25/26.**

Thank you

Mark Rochell