

WHEPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

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ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Section 1 – The Statement of Accounts

Variances Explanation

Line 2 – Annual Precept

The annual precept at £9,560 was the same as the previous year.

Line 3 – Total Other Receipts

At £736 total other receipts included just two grants totalling £623.97 and bank interest (£111.58) only this year. This compares with £18,806 last year which – unusually - included £13,743.90, an s.106 payment from West Suffolk Council which related to an affordable housing development built about five years ago. This was used for a new ceiling at the community centre. There was also a big VAT refund of £3,592.26 and £1,450 of Locality Budget grants from our County and District Councillors in 2022-23. The Total Other Receipts figure is much more in line with the 2021-22 figure of £514.

Line 4 – Staff Costs

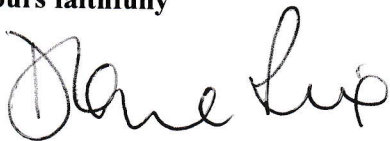
Just as staff costs had been unusually high at £6,442 because 15 months of payments had gone through the accounts in 2022-23, this year only 9 months of payments (£4,075) have gone through. Had 12 months gone through the accounts the amount would have been more in line with the 2021-22 figure of £5,438. The Clerk's hourly rate also rose in line with NALC recommendations.

Line 6 – All Other Payments

All other payments were dramatically lower at £5,889, down from £22,177 in 2022-23. This was wholly due to the fact that the PC did not contribute to any major new assets (£16,492.68 for a new ceiling at the community centre in 2022-23). Grass cutting costs were also lower (£1,834.71 compared to £2,696.44 in 2022-23) as only three quarterly payments had gone through the account.

With kind regards

Yours faithfully



Di Rix (Mrs)
Parish Clerk