Clerk's Report - 25th January 2024

8.1 Reserves Statement

EMR code 334 for bus shelters currently has a balance of £7591.66. This sum could be moved into code 321 - Community Assets Renewal and Repair. We have budgeted £3600 for some repairs to be made to the bus stops. If further work is needed, we could use code 321.

We currently have almost £24,000 more in general reserves than at the same point last year. If we spend a similar amount to last year in the remaining 3 months (£35,500) we will have approx. £126k which equates to 9.7 months' worth of expenditure. Best practice states that we should hold between 3 and 12 months in general reserves. Should we consider moving some funds into EMR's? To consider the following:

- i. The Old Church fund has been depleted
- ii. Pond Maintenance is very low
- iii. Whilst we have embarked on a 3 year tree plan and this is being budgeted for, hedge work has been similarly overlooked for some years.

8.2 CIL Funds – Balance £493,365

CIL Funds Expenditure

27-Sep	3006.00	Village Green Bench
29-Sep	280.00	Village Green Bench fitting
03-Oct	40.58	VG Bench repair
27-Oct	158.00	Wetpour repairs Broyle Close Park
27-Oct	3605.00	Wetpour repairs Broyle Close Park
01-Nov	895.00	Skatepark Archaelogical Scheme of Investigation
06-Nov	404.01	New Bin - excavation licence Glynde Corner
06-Nov	404.01	New Bin - excavation licence Bishops Lane
03-Oct	169.33	Skatepark - reserved Conditions
13-Nov	7000.00	New all weather surface
15-Dec	944.90	VG park surface repair
TOTAL	22401.16	

8.3 Review Bank Accounts

The Cambridge and Counties 1 year bond matures in April before our next meeting. Please see the attached sheet for alternatives along with details of total CIL Funds held and expected spending.

9.2i. AFC Ringmer CIL Application

Commentary from Gary Holder (in bold):

Re bank statements – You'll see below that we have recently paid just shy of £3k in VAT and the statements for our 2 accounts are attached. The account ending 3551 is the trading account and the account with £23k in is the savings account/sinking fund and this is money set aside to relay the pitch in 8-10 years (hopefully it won't be sooner). We are currently putting £1k a month into this account but we need to increase that as it will probably be circa £250k to relay the pitch but there are grants and loans available if we can get to £125k or thereabouts.

Re the application - would it be ok to see if the Parish Council could agree in principle subject to quotes confirming the amounts? What we are asking for is highly specialised with effectively only 1 provider able to carry out the tasks requested so we are a bit hamstrung in demanding they hurry up with their quotes! It can be stipulated that we pay the subsequent invoices and then reclaim from the Parish Council if that helps?

I have attached a very short (17 seconds) video from the boys training last night to show how crowded the pitch gets and why it would be helpful to extend the playing surface - there were 48 players training at the same time despite the cold! It can be up to 60 but the weather put some off and there are also mocks going on for some of the players.

9.2ii. Cheyney Croquet Club

The pre-application has gone to planning. The Rifle Club had previously agreed to move the unit, but this has not come to fruition.

11. General Reserves

These are currently held in Barclays current account, CCLA and Nsandi. We received £57.66 interest from the NS&I accounts (total balances of £62,012) in Jan 22, and approx. £1200 from CCLA (balance of £27,195). Should you consider moving the NS&I funds?

General

S137 Grant Fund - £950 remains from a budget allocated of £1500

VAT - VAT has been reclaimed and received for the period ending 31st Dec in the sum of £3491.75