

Langley with Hardley Parish Council

Meeting of Full Council Tuesday 9 January 2024.

Item 9 To consider the Parish Council Budget for 2024/25

Summary:

This budget report outlines the financial plan for Langley with Hardley Parish Council for the year 2024/25. The budget has been developed to ensure responsible financial management while addressing the diverse needs of the community.

1. Introduction:

Langley with Hardley Parish Council operates as a local government body responsible for managing and providing services to the residents of the villages of Langley and Hardley. The budget aims to maintain and enhance essential services, support community development, and ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the council. A Councillor working group was convened on Wednesday 20 December to discuss the draft budget prepared by the Parish Clerk, it is the Councillor amends to this draft budget that are presented for approval today.

2. Reserves and contingency planning:

- It is recommended that the Parish Council confirms the adequacy of reserves set at £7K on 6 June 2023.
- This budget includes for the first time in recent years earmarked reserves. When the budget is adopted the earmarked reserves will be published as a list to meet audit requirements.

3. Community Engagement:

- It is recommended that the Parish Council considers all opportunities available for residents to provide feedback on the budget before finalisation. Feedback from residents on the Parish FaceBook post asking for ideas and suggestions on how to spend the budget have been included in this budget.

The budget for the financial year 2024/25 reflects Langley with Hardley Parish Council's commitment to meeting the needs of the community in a financially responsible manner. Through strategic planning, careful allocation of resources, and community engagement, the council aims to enhance the quality of life for residents while ensuring the long-term financial health of the Parish.

4. Recommendations:

The following recommendations are proposed for consideration:

- a) To adopt the proposed revenue and expenditure plan for the financial year 2024/25.
- b) To monitor spend closely and when expenditure is agreed at Full Council the budget line that spend comes from should be also be agreed and noted.
- c) To continue to explore grant funding as way of bringing income into the Parish Council.
- d) Maintain open lines of communication with residents to address concerns and gather input.
- e) Regularly review and update the budget based on changing circumstances.

5. Approval:

This budget report is submitted for review and approval by Langley with Hardley Parish Council. By agreeing the budget the precept request to South Norfolk District Council will be set and the request will be sent by the Clerk to meet the submission deadline of 12 January 2024.

Prepared by: Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Date: 27 December 2023.