

DUNCHIDEOCK PARISH COUNCIL

BUDGET REVIEW 2020/2021

This review is a projection forward to the possible situation for 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. The figures are based on the situation as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 and should be read with the Budget/Actual Comparison for this date. The review must be done at the end of month seven of the Financial Year as the Budget and Precept must be agreed at the January 2021 meeting.

The impact of Coronavirus on personal lives, businesses of all sizes and larger councils has been considerable. The impact on the parish council finances has been minimal.

As stated in November 2019, the council must ensure that it is financially sound to carry out its functions. A significant increase in the Budget and Precept was necessary for this Financial Year as the council would have been unable to cover some expenditure without the additional items and amounts. The Budgets for previous years could have been for higher amounts to avoid this situation. A small improvement is being seen. Comments on particular items are:

Administration – Possibly a small deficit as costs have increased

Chairman's Allowance – A probable surplus as this has been used for refreshments after the Annual Parish Meeting which did not have to be held

Clerks Mileage – A surplus as this will not be used

Insurance – Small deficit with premium increase due to an increase in replacement value of assets

Subscriptions – Probable small deficit due to increases in some subscriptions

Training – A deficit due to 3 new councillors needing to attend DALC courses now being held on Zoom in a different format with an increase in costs

Village Hall Hire – A surplus as meetings cannot be held in the Village Hall and Zoom is being used. Due to this, residents are not attending meetings

Defibrillators – Part of an annual provision towards replacement in say 2029 at £5,000 plus

Election Contingency – A surplus of £231.53 as the cost of the February 2020 election was less than the provision of £1,500. If an election is not held by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 the other provision of £1,500 can be carried forward to 2021/2022

Noticeboard Repairs – A possible surplus. There will be some cost in respect of the new Noticeboard at Kings Bridge and repairs to the other two Noticeboards

Other Repairs and Maintenance – Probable surplus as none known at present

Parish Website Domain name – Required as cost of continuing existing website

New Website – A possible surplus due to a reduction in cost to £469 together with a Locality Fund grant of £300. This figure is after paying the balance of the cost of £328.30 plus VAT of £65.66 and the annual fee of £228 plus VAT of £45.60, a total of £667.56. There may be some cost in respect of complying with the Website Accessibility requirements

PROJECTED SURPLUS – Within the projected surplus of £3030.52 for 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 there is provision for an election of £1,500 and £500 is a provision for replacement of the Defibrillators.

N R Harvey  
Responsible Financial Officer  
5/11/2020