

Income and Expenditure

During the year the greatest source of income was the parish precept (£42000), which is calculated each January as part of an on-going budgeting process. A small sum was also accrued in interest on earmarked reserves. The parish Council also received a donation from Purleigh Community Primary School towards parking enforcement in Pump Lane and the Westerings. Unfortunately income from the Pavilion was much less than in the same quarter last year due to the lockdown imposed to try to stop the spread of Coronavirus.

The Parish Council spent £955.44 during the quarter maintaining and improving the pavilion and playing field on behalf of parishioners, an additional £1,985 was spent on grass cutting in the parish and £2,885.25 was spent on general administration, which included the insurance premiums for the year, the data protection registration fee, and affiliation to the National and Essex Associations of Local Councils who provide legal advice, updates on new legislation and training throughout the year. We also spent £1,565.75 on a new notice board for Farther Howe Green (£1,000 of which was recovered through an insurance claim.)

FINANCIAL MATTERS

At the May meeting the Parish Council approved and signed the accounts for the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020 which showed the Parish Council to have Net Assets in the sum of £33,977.28 at 31st March 2020 compared with £51,610.28 the precious year. The difference is because the Parish Council held grants towards the children's play area in 2018/2019 which weren't spent until 2019/2020.

The accounts and our Annual Governance and Accountability Statements were then audited by our independent auditor, Mr. John Smith-Daye of Lambert Chapman, and forwarded to Littlejohn LLP for external audit. Mr. Smith-Daye was satisfied that all regulatory requirements had been met and that the Parish Council's accounts were accurate and transparent.

May is also the month when the Parish Council conducts its annual risk assessment, (which this year was restricted to financial matters, to try to keep the meeting as brief as possible,).

During the quarter the Parish Council had also had its tree stock professionally inspected and has ordered a new bench to replace the one at the end of Rigby's Path which was damaged by a tree falling on it.

Covid-19 risk assessments have also been completed on the Pavilion and Children's play area which the Council hopes to be able to re-open soon.

YOUR COUNCIL

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WEBSITE

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW OF THE QUARTER

These are still extraordinary times and as I write we are emerging from lockdown and trying to work out ways to re-open the children's play area and the pavilion safely. This will involve a lot of signage, hand sanitiser and common sense, so as a Parish Council we beseech anyone using any of our facilities, once re-opened, to obey the rules. Maintain social distancing, wash your hands and/or sanitise often and keep away if you have a temperature, a new or persistent cough or respiratory problems, have lost your sense of taste and/or smell or have had contact with any possible source of the virus. We really want parishioners to enjoy all that Purleigh has to offer again but need everyone to be mindful of safe practices and therefore keep our community as safe and free from Covid-19 as possible.

Despite these very unusual times the work of the Parish Council has continued. Many hours have been spent responding to the Stage One Bradwell B Consultation, firstly asking for the consultation period to be deferred until public meetings can once again be held (refused) and in Purleigh Parish Council's response.

In our response we raised many concerns about the proposal's impact on the environment, the scale and siting of the project, the impact on tourism and the

local economy, including the region's growing reputation for the production of excellent wine and beer, and the loss of amenity for villages such as Purleigh and the whole of the Dengie Hundred. Our primary concern however, which we emphasised most strongly, related to transport, most particularly the unacceptable and inevitable increase in traffic through Purleigh getting to and from the site and arising from the option of siting temporary freight management and park and ride facilities east of Palepit Corner.

We pointed out the devastating effect this would have, especially if the proposed bypass in Latchingdon didn't materialise, and suggested mitigation measures such as those used in Rettendon and Hanningfield to prevent HGV's and Bradwell B traffic using our rural lanes. The Parish Council advocated that that to deter any Bradwell B traffic from using non-designated and unsuitable routes to and from the site, possibly along rural roads in Purleigh and Mundon etc. such short cuts must be made more time consuming for drivers to use *via* the introduction of traffic islands and other appropriate measures like those installed in other parishes, where traffic islands and road narrowing measures have been successfully introduced. These short cuts should effectively become longer to travel along and be much more onerous to drivers.

We have also petitioned Essex County Council to install fixed speed cameras within the 30 mph speed limit in Hackmans Lane and to impose weight limits in Hackmans Lane and Marl pits Road. Both of these roads have recently seen a huge increase in speeding traffic and in the number of HGV's using them. We have also asked for traffic calming measures in Burnham Road to draw motorists' attention to the bends following another accident.

During the quarter a new bench has been purchased to replace the one damaged at the end of Rigby's Path and a new notice board has been installed at the edge of the common in Farther Howe Green.

The Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to thank Rose Dilworth so much for all her years of service looking after the pavilion. It was with great sadness that we learned that she had to step down from her role due to ill health and we send her every possible good wish for her health in the future.

Graham Rayner.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

During the period 1st April 2020 to 30th June 2020 the Parish Council's income and investments amounted to £75,151.83 and in the same period it spent £13,646.20 on parishioners' behalf. At 30th June 2019 the following monies were held:

General Fund:	
Barclays Community (Current) Account	£1561.51
Barclays Business Premium Account	£46,106.31
Petty Cash	£50.00
Earmarked Reserves:	
Capital Projects Fund	£10,491.87
Legacy account	<u>£7,298.95</u>
	£65,508.63

