

Parish Financial Report 31 March 2015

The Parish Clerk reported that the balance in the Parish bank account at 31/03/2015 was £16,835.46, of which £1,093.97 was S106 money remaining from the development at Palmers Yard. This is an increase of some £1,900 on last year, largely because the PC has set up a “future projects” fund, to meet any unexpected expenses, because allotment expenses were minimal, and because admin expenses were lower as, due to problems with the website provider, we didn’t pay the website maintenance charge for the year. These issues have now, hopefully, been resolved and the charge has been paid.

During the year the Parish Council again made a donation towards the costs of the May Fayre, which continues to be a very successful event. We also made a contribution towards grass cutting at Ecchinswell Village Hall and towards the grass cutting in the old churchyard in Ecchinswell. During the year we also obtained a grant from BDBC to pay for repairs to the heating at the BG hall and we have applied for a grant from BDBC to repair/renew the entrance and car park area at EVH; we are still waiting to hear if that has been successful.

The precept for 2014/2015 was set at £11,299, which was an increase of £538 to enable the PC to build up the “future projects fund” mentioned earlier. Since the precept for 2013/2014 was reduced by in the previous financial year this means the precept for 2014/2015 is virtually the same as it was in 2011/2012.

As usual, apart from the precept, we also received an additional grant of £1,100 from Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, a grant to cover the cost of the litter wardens and a grant contributing to the cost of grass cutting in the parish, plus the Council Tax grant of £904. The other source of Parish Council funding is the rents from the allotments – we have just heard that one plot is being given up, so there is one available if anyone is interested in “growing their own”.

The principal expenditures, as always, are:

Clerk's salary, including PAYE

Village maintenance

Admin costs, including postage, stationery phone/computer costs

Insurance premium

Hire of halls

Subscriptions and affiliations

The accounts for the year ending 31/03/2015 have been audited by the internal auditor and will shortly be sent to the external auditor.