

Elvaston Budget Report 2015/16

Expenditure.

Over the past financial year expenditure decreased from £16223 to £15367 (final audited figures). The higher expenditure stems in the main from a decrease in the purchase of a new defibrillator (£2020) and a decrease in s.137 costs of £1324 because 2 grants were claimed by and paid to the Plan Steering Group last year.

All other expenditure items were reasonably within budget.

As a result, at the start of this financial year Council now holds around £29k in reserve.

Notwithstanding the above the Council maintains a contingency fund to provide funds for any unforeseen expenses.

Income.

The Council is keen to retain surplus reserves while not compromising expenditure on services and projects. Audited figures show a total balance brought forward from last year plus income of £45134, less expenditure of £15367 which equates to a healthy balance of £29766. Accordingly, the Receipts & Payments book shows a bank reconciled figure of £29766. Income increased by £912 from the previous year due mainly to an insurance claim of £774 and 2 Rights of Way Grants claimed from and paid by DCC - £770.

The SDDC's s.136 concurrent functions grant increased from £6647 to £6799.

Council is conscious of avoiding any poor state of reserves which has threatened many with bankruptcy while at the same time striving to deliver services designed for a modern village.

This year.

Council requested the same level of precept from District Council and considers this to represent good value to parishioners.

Precept.

The Precept of £10820 divided by 1398 parishioners = £7.74 per year, 0.15p per week per parishioner. Figures are based on the 2014/15 electoral register and so will have increased due to new occupations at Boulton Moor.

The Government's regulation over a revised tax base (Local Council Tax Support Scheme) was introduced 3 years ago. It is a replacement benefit system to help pensioners, disabled and low income households. This provides a discount for such recipients that reduces the overall number of properties liable for Council Tax and the scheme continues.

Elvaston had its CT base i.e. number of liable properties increased from 699 last year to 734 in the forthcoming year; however, this will increase as more occupations at Buttercup Leys are taken up as mentioned above. Council has asked SDDC for the same level of precept as last year (£10820); added to this the Government's Local Council Tax Support Grant award is £210.