

Harbury Parish Council

Finance and General Purposes Working Party (F&GP)

Annual Report for 2008 - 2009

The precept for the current year 2009/10 has been increased by £4470 (7.6%) to £63137; this gives an increase of £3.97 per year on a Band 'D' property.

The F&GP working party recommended to the full Parish Council that a 7.6% increase in the Parish Precept would enable the Parish to fully fund its plans for the year 2009/10

This level of Precept will allow the additional spending in the following areas;

- **Play areas** – Much of the existing equipment is reaching the end of its useful life, we proposed setting up a fund to gradually build up sufficient funds to replace play equipment and the needed resurfacing of the basketball court.
- **S137** – While we would have liked to put a figure of £10000 on this scheme, we have set our budget at £5,000 for this year and the Council intends to spend these funds by targeting, not just local groups, but specifically the local youth groups.
- **Village maintenance** – increased by 3% in line with the terms of the contract.
- **Village Hall Car Park** – A budget to cover additional repairs, based on the last 12 months costs.
- **Village Hall Development** – Again this year we have set aside funds to directly support the development plans for the Village Hall, this amount is set at £5,000.
- **Cemetery** – £2000 to cover the ongoing tree maintenance and the works required to make the headstones safe.
- **Street Lighting** – £4000 to cover new and replacement columns with an additional £3500 for maintenance.
- **Parish Website** – The development of the Parish Council website is now complete. The intention is to expand the pages available to include more Parish Groups, so that this site grows into a Harbury community website. A summary of last years accounts are shown below. This is well inline with our planned budgetary control. Copies of the full accounts are included in the Parish Council Annual Report.

INCOME	
Precepts	58667.00
Interest Received	1777.49
Allotment Rents	652.50
Burial Ground Fees	1224.00
Playing Field Hire	200.00
Wayleave	33.76
Grass Verge Contribution - SDC	1251.20

Grant Funding	3046.69
Sports Club Additional Contribution	230.52
TOTAL INCOME	67083.16

EXPENDITURE	
General Administration	14383.88
Purchase of Office Equipment	552.80
Parish Office	4041.52
Section 137	3136.98
Contribution to Village Hall	5000.00
Concessionary Travel	42.50
Running Costs:	
Allotments	1073.56
Burial	5112.77
Open Spaces	6441.98
Playing Fields & Car Park	9119.75
Non-Estate Roads	1589.40
Street Lighting	11121.60
Contribution to Sports Clubs Fund	1320.00
Councillors Allowances	2256.02
Election Expenses	200.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	65392.76

The Harbury Parish Council website provides us all with another means to keep in touch with the Parish Council, giving easy access to the minutes, meeting schedules, quarterly reports and the contact details for the Council.

Current Harbury planning applications can be viewed here along with the details of other village groups. Please note the web address,

<http://www.harbury-pc.gov.uk/>

On a personal note I would like to thank our Clerk, Nicola Thomson, for all of the help and support she has given to me and all of the Parish Councillors in the last year. My thanks also go to my colleagues on the F&GP Working Party, Councillors Tim Lockley, Sharon Hancock, Ron Grey and Alison Baldwin for their help, contributions and commitment throughout the year.

Tony Mancell

Chair, Finance & General Purposes Working Party, May 2009