

## Trimdon Foundry Parish Council

### 2016/17 Variance Statement

There are a number of variances in accounts during the year and the reasons are listed below. Most of the variances are linked to the implementation of the agreed MTFP and Transformation Plan. The Council has 4 main areas within the plan they wish to improve, these are led by individual members

Community Engagement Cllr. C.Bell  
Allotments Cllr. G and G. Elliott  
Heritage Cllr. M Lenehan Ferguson and Cllr.B. Ferguson  
Play areas Cllr. M. Eadsforth and Cllr.J. Loverance.

Listed below are the explanations in numerical order

#### **Income**

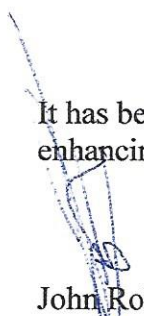
1. The council continues to receive Rate Support from DCC, this year it was paid alongside the Parish Precept and the combined total was £69887. This is scheduled to stop in 2020, it is reducing to £10,000 for the 2017/18 Civic Year.
2. The VAT income to be re-claimed this coming year has reduced to £9122, this is as a result of last year's investment of £92,000 into play, being reflected in last year's amount. However, the payment for 2016 Civic year of £18,671 appears in this year's income.
3. There has been an increase in the current account total to £15,042.43, as Council had agreed to spend £10,000 on drainage and towards CCTV. Both drainage and CCTV have been delayed to the 17/18 Civic year. Members were also concerned funding maybe required for the Parish Council election. As it happens all 7 members were elected un-opposed.
4. Allotments have risen as they include payments for 2 years rental. This has now been corrected, with the current year being paid by tenants in this Civic year.
5. Cemetery fees are down due to reduced number of burials
6. Capital last year was linked to Playground improvements.

#### **Expenditure**

1. Staff costs are down due to no payment for home office allowance and pension. This however will increase in 17/18 as the Clerk is to commence in the Local Government Pension Scheme as of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.
2. The administration fee this year is raised by £1000 as the full cost of renting office space in May Crescent Community House comes on line. The work of the Council especially in regard to Community engagement has also had an effect.
3. Allotments have reduced by £4500 as we have made no improvements to the fencing this year.

4. Cemetery costs have risen due to extra work being required environmentally wise. Council have also had to remove several trees and bushes which were dangerous and 1 tree had fallen over.
5. Insurance remains with the same company on contract and an increase of £400 to cover the new play area continues
6. Recreation has increased dramatically. The new environment contract has been allocated to this area. £11000 was spent on the Picnic in the Park, and a further £12000 was spent completing the footpaths around the play area.
7. NWA have removed water piping to several unused taps in the cemetery, and stopped water to a number of areas in the allotments resulting in a major reduction on water charges.
8. S137 grants were reduced to £4650 to reflect the over payment the year before. The cost of the Parish Clock was £273 under S137.
9. Community Enjoyment in the Transformation Plan has resulted in Christmas events being expanded, Opening of memorial ground having a Willy Wonka Day, Pensioners Party to celebrate Queens Reign, and Entry to Northumbria in Bloom has resulted in extra costs against Recreation as new flower beds and a large bed created.
10. The contract for Environmental Service has been terminated due to quality of work. It has been awarded to S.E.Landscapes.
11. 20,000 dog bags were once again purchased and used within 6 months, members are considering a new approach to this area.

It has been a year linked to developing both the transformation Plan and enhancing Professionalism of Council and service it provides.



John Robinson  
Parish Clerk  
10<sup>th</sup> May 2017

## **Trimdon Foundry Parish Council**

### **Annual Account Support Statement 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

#### **Overall View**

The Council accounts are compiled using RIALTAS. This has produced all the necessary information required.

The accounts are audited by the Council Internal Auditor Mr. Gordon Fletcher.

The Council continues to work actively with groups in the Community and would thank them for their continued support.

#### **Fixed Assets**

At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 the assets held were as listed. The basis of these valuations of these assets is historical costs wherever possible, insurance value or replacement value as appropriate. This excludes the Cemetery land, Village greens which are valued at £1.

#### **Current Assets.**

Current Account stands at £15,042.43 and Investment Account £122,767.70. A combined total of £137,810.13.

#### **Leases**

Nil

#### **Borrowings**

Nil

#### **Outstanding Loans**

Nil

#### **Tenancies**

Nil. However, we do rent 48 allotments to Parishioners.

#### **Reserve Policy**

Council have resolved to undertake the following projects which they have allocated the following

Drainage heritage Trail adjacent to The Paddock £10,000

CCTV Memorial Ground £8,000

Potential Election £10,000

They are also acutely aware the Deposit Account money is the residue from the sale of Cemetery Lodge and should be used carefully.

**Section 137 Payments**

This year was restricted to £4,650 to reflect the overspend of the previous year

**Agency Work**

Nil

**Advertising/publicity**

The Council Newsletter is due to be produced June 2017

**Pensions-Durham County Council Superannuation Fund.**

No contributions made 16/17

**VAT Reclaim**

This year Council claimed yearly and the amount was £18,671.72



John Robinson

Parish Clerk

1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.