

Iden Parish Council Year End Financial Report 2020-2021

As at the 31st March the bank balances stood at £20,121.40. Total net of vat payments for the year were £14,819.16. To give a more accurate figure this figure needs to be reduced by £850 website payment as this came from ring fenced funds and the figure increased by unpaid work contracted during the year of £265.90 (excluding vat) for the playing field signs plus estimated £650 for a ramp to replace the steps between the new burial ground and the garden of contemplation. This makes agreed spending, net of vat, for the year to be £13,533.65 against the budgeted sum of £16,349.

The savings are due to COVID-19. Anticipated parish asset grass cutting cost was £4,200 whilst only £1,400 worth of cuts took place as fortnightly cuts were reduced to every three weeks. A saving of £2,800. The opportunity was taken to carry out additional work on the parking area, churchyard and Garden of Contemplation £489.58. The £1,000 contingency sum remained untouched. Running costs for the council were as expected except for a slight increase on the Clerk's salary due to back pay for two years. The delay was due to central government only finalising salary increases for 2019 and 2020 in August 2021. Additionally, there was no hall hire for the year.

On the other side receipts or income were boosted by £1,650 for burial ground fees. As a result there has been an increase of £4,552.40 between 31st March 2020 and 31st March 2021. An unexpected increase which provides a financial cushion whilst the council works on resolving the falling number of playing field users and therefore falling numbers of pavilion committee members.

Within the end of year balance the council holds £8,000 as a general reserve and £992.54 ring fenced for the website and £246 garden society donation for natural enhancements around the village. There is also a reserve of £50 for ICE but recently the council had taken the decision to cover ICE costs in the future.