

Moulton Parish Council Report to accompany 2023/24 budget

Costs have risen in the last year with more and more costs being passed down by Suffolk County Council and West Suffolk Council. Parish councils are expected to pay for highways/road safety improvements they request unless they meet strict SCC criteria, in which case the cost would be met by SCC.

The only way to raise this money is through the precept or by using reserves.

Current reserves

Reserve	Opening Balance	Transfers	Spend	Receipts	Current Balance
Earmarked					
Off road car park	£8,651	£813			£9,464
Covered bench	£2,500	-£2,500			£0
Street lighting	£500	£1,200	£1,182	£1,747	£2,266
Grass cutting	£2,559	£4,000	£2,350		£4,209
Charitable donations	£1,000	-£1,000			£0
Defibrillator maintenance	£650	£200			£850
Dog fouling bags	£500	£150			£650
Bus shelter and phone box	£10,200	£200			£10,400
Village maintenance - general	£13,696	-£11,500			£2,196
Pest control	£500	£600	£550		£550
Playing field maintenance	£10,989	£500	£206		£11,283
Playing field - goal posts, nets etc	£2,250	£250			£2,500
Playground safety inspections	£1,500	£500	£276		£1,724
S137/GPC/charitable donations	£3,500	-£2,000			£1,500
Office equipment	£625		£508		£117
Election costs	£3,000	£150			£3,150
Training and travel costs - clerk and councillors	£1,000	-£750	£63		£187
Training - clerk	£200	-£200			£0
Village project	£20,000	-£15,000			£5,000
Speed limit implementation	£5,000		£400		£4,600
VAS contingency fund		£200			£200
Wildlife working group		£200			£200
Replacement posts for The Green		£10,000			£10,000

Maintenance of fixed assets					£0
Playing field fence	£2,000				£2,000
Road safety improvements	£12,000				£12,000
Tree works	£2,000	£1,750			£250
Riverbanks	£2,000	£510			£1,490
Village Green (general)					£0
Village green track maintenance	£4,000				£4,000
TOTAL EARMARKED RESERVES	£88,819	£8,013	£7,795	£1,747	£90,785
GENERAL FUND					£8,332
TOTAL FUNDS					£99,118

Things to consider:

- With inflation rising and costs increasing we need to maintain a good general reserve.
- Are you happy with the current reserve allocations or do they need amending?
- West Suffolk Council has quoted the following cost for the 2023 elections:
 - Uncontested election: approximately £100.
 - Contested election with district council elections uncontested £2,500 - £3,500
 - Contested election with district council elections also contested £2,000 - £3,000