

Notes for Finance Section of Mouldsworth Parish Council Meeting Monday 19th April 2021

Parish Council accounts:

Page 1 Detail of accounts.

Page 2 Comparison with last year, including Supporting Notes and Section 137 payments.

Income from precept £1518, slightly down on last year's £1562.

Expenditure £1481.14 - similar to last year except for £500 Ashton PC flood fund donation and £171 for Neighbourhood Plan initial pre-survey work from Cheshire Community Action.

Bank Balance at year-end - net saving of £36.86, which leaves end year bank balance up very slightly at £17,583.48 (which is OK for our 'rainy day' fund level).

Section 137 expenditure at £568 is within allowed levels (max. £875).

Fixed Assets: One-page summary of £650 PC Notice-board Fixed Asset.

Internal Audit: This year we have a full-page signed document detailing the annual internal audit and signed by our internal auditor Joanne Monks (Clerk to Delamere and Oakmere Parish Council). This was carried out over Zoom but signed in person. There are no recommendations for remedial actions.

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21 Part 2:

This is the External Audit procedure for Parish Councils with incomes and expenditures less than £25,000. It contains the following pages which must be shown on our website:

- **Certificate of Exemption** (meaning we don't need to have our accounts external audited by PKF Littlejohn).
- **Annual Governance Statement** confirming that we have a sound system of internal control.
- **Accounting Statements** with a brief summary of our finances.
- **Annual Internal Audit Report** signed by our Internal Auditor Joanne Monks.

Notice of Public Rights to inspect the accounts

One-page notice saying the accounts are available to be inspected by the public from 14th June - 23rd July. This needs to be on our website along with the above documents.

Poors Land Charity Accounts

The Poors Land Charity trustees are traditionally the Parish Councillors. The Charity is not legally connected to the Parish Council. The Charity accounts are filed annually with the Charity Commission (Charity number 242165).

Income - £240 from annual field rental, plus £1.75 in bank interest.

Expenditure - £1,656 (**Village shop £656** for Covid screen/scales/printer, and **Ashton School PTFa £1000** due to lack of fund raising events in last 12 months). This expenditure is our highest annual total ever but has been deemed to be appropriate for this once-in-a-generation Covid crisis).

Bank Balance – Combined accounts £3,682.68 at year-end, so still plenty of money left to spend/give away. Remember we have been advised by the Charities Commission that the biggest 'sin' we can commit running a charity is to not spend the money. Note the current account went overdrawn to minus £133.61 from 23rd March to 13th April 2021 – see below.

Bank Account signees

We have one Parish Council Bank account and two Charity bank accounts ('high interest' and current accounts). In early April 2021 we updated our signees in Barclays 'Mandate' central database, Barclays seemed to have lost our correct information. The double signees are now (and have been in practice though not in Barclay's database) Martin Garnett – Treasurer, and Geraint Jones - Chairman. We have resisted going to electronic banking on all the above accounts to try and keep things as simple as possible.

Signed: **Martin Garnett** – Treasurer Mouldsworth Parish Council