

# ELDON PARISH COUNCIL

21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

## RESERVES AND EARMARKED EXPENDITURE

### INTRODUCTION

Members will recall that the Parish Council reserves have been high in the past which led the Council to specifically earmark a large portion of the reserves for certain projects at its May 2019 meeting linked to the Parish Plan as follows:

Area of Expenditure	Projected Cost
Dog Fouling (Parish Council provided bins)	£1,000
Litter/overgrown areas (community scheme)	£1,000
Flower tubs (8 tubs plus planting and 5 years maintenance costs of £400 per annum)	£3,200
Fencing and environmental works (rights of way stiles etc.) on land registered to Parish Council.	£1,500
Support for recreational activities at Community Centre and for possible energy saving measures.	£8,000
Replacement and securing of vandalised or at risk street furniture.	£3,000
Grant towards Darlington and Stockton Railway Development.	£3,000
Housing Development in Eldon – Consultancy to planning.	£7,000
Contribution towards children's playground refurbishment	£5,000
Hedge cutting/footpath maintenance on Parish Council land 5 years at £400 per year	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£34,700</b>

The above left £12,161 in unallocated reserves after taking into account the allocated reserves.

### CURRENT POSITION

The position has moved on since 2019, with £45,174 held by the Council in reserves as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. Regarding the sum set aside for activities at the Community Centre, the greater part of this has now been spent (during 2019) on energy efficiency measures, including new LED lighting and a new range cooker. The Council's contribution towards the playground refurbishment, as previously agreed has now risen to £6,000 and the Council also agreed a contribution of £2,000 towards a new bus shelter at the bottom of Eldon Bank, in partnership with Durham County Council to replace the existing metal shelter, on the basis that the replacement shelter will be owned and maintained by the County Council. Vandalism of the Council's street furniture, including the Youth Shelter, means it would be prudent to maintain the sum set aside for repairs and maintenance and for the possible installation of some additional seats.

It is therefore suggested that earmarked expenditure for 2020-2021 should be as follows:

Area of Expenditure (2020-2021)	Projected Cost
Dog Fouling (Parish Council provided bins)	£1,000
Litter/overgrown areas (community scheme)	£1,000
Flower tubs (8 tubs plus planting and 5 years maintenance costs of £400 per annum)	£3,200
Fencing and environmental works (rights of way, stiles etc.) on land registered to Parish Council.	£1,500
Support for recreational activities at Community Centre and for possible energy saving measures.	£2,000
Replacement and securing of vandalised or at risk street furniture.	£3,000
Grant towards Darlington and Stockton Railway Development.	£3,000
Housing Development in Eldon – Consultancy to planning.	£7,000
Contribution towards children's playground refurbishment	£6,000
Hedge cutting/footpath maintenance on Parish Council land 5 years at £400 per year	£2,000
Contribution towards new bus shelter	£2,000
New seating	£2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£33,700</b>

The revised allocations would leave £11,474 of unallocated spending for 2020-2021.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Council is **RECOMMENDED** to consider the above proposals and to set aside the sums for the purposes indicated.

Tom Bolton

Clerk to the Council