



Radcliffe on Trent Parish Council

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Statement of Activities for 2023/24

Parish Councils are required to provide Council Tax payers with details of their budgets and any relevant background information that will assist in understanding the budget.

As everyone will be aware there has been significant financial turmoil over the past year with staff costs and utility bills rising at unprecedented rates. The Council has been shielded from the impact of rising utility bills due to favorable fixed prices contracts in place until the next financial year. These are now up for renewal and the impact has been estimated in the budget. Staff pay increases are set by the government with the current year being much larger than was budgeted for last year.

A further matter outside this Council's control is the decision by Upper Saxondale residents to break away from Radcliffe on Trent and set up their own Parish Council. This has considerably reduced the tax base for this parish for next year and thus has reduced the expected income from the precept. Upper Saxondale Parish Council is entitled to a share of the combined parishes Reserves which was not considered in the current year budget but will have a significant impact on the Free Reserves of this parish.

The Council has agreed an increase in precept of 5% which is in line with the Government's upper limit for larger councils. This will generate a precept income of £312,852, approximately £16,000 less than the current year.

The combined affect of a lower precept and considerably higher costs means that there will be a deficit budget for next year. The Council is reviewing operations before finalizing the budget by department for income and costs next month with a view to reducing the deficit if possible.

Committees can spend within their net budget without further approval from Finance and General Purposes which enables the day to day operation of the Council. The correct allocation is therefore very important and once approved in February or March it will be published on the Council website.

The Council has Free Reserves (available for use), Designated Reserves (established for various projects but not fixed) and Restricted Reserves (can only be used for the purpose for which it was created). Again the situation with these is uncertain during negotiations with Upper Saxondale.

Statement of Activities for 2023/24 – continued

The Council employs 4 part-time Office Staff, 2 part-time Grounds Staff, 3 part-time Caretakers for Grange Hall, The Grange and the Public Toilets and part-time Hall Duty Officers for events.

The Grange and Grange Hall attract a wide range of bookings which have recovered after the COVID restrictions. Events include Civil Weddings, Funeral Receptions and Birthday Parties, Concerts, Dances and Drama, Fitness Classes, Exhibitions and Training Seminars and a wide range of Educational Classes with both venues offering Wi-Fi and media facilities.

The Council owns, manages and maintains the following facilities in the parish:

Community Buildings

Grange Hall
The Grange

Other Buildings

Rockley Park Bungalow
Rockley Park Pavilion
Mess Room and Park Toilets
Greenhouses and Store
The Village Public Toilets
The Pavilion and Store

Amenities

Cliff Walk
The Lily Ponds
The Triangle of Land, Bingham Road

Cemetery

Vicarage Lane Cemetery

Recreation Areas and Play Areas

Wharf Lane Sports Ground
Valley Road Play Area
The Skatepark
Rockley Memorial Park

The Council has responsibility for the maintenance of the following amenities:

The Grange Grounds
Bingham Road Play Area

St. Mary's Churchyard
Dewberry Hill

Enquiries about the content of this document or comments about the finances of the Parish should be directed to The Clerk to the Council, at the address overleaf.