

HALLS CEMETERIES AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

Date: Monday 23rd May 2022
Title: **Finance Report**
Contact Officer: Town Clerk/RFO – Sharon Groth

BACKGROUND

Detailed income and expenditure statements for budgets which are the responsibility of this committee are enclosed. The period to which this report relates is Period 12, 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

CURRENT SITUATION

Most, if not all, the year-end adjustments have now been completed, along with the recharges from Central Support for the administration, Works Department for all the maintenance tasks and service delivery, and Grounds Maintenance costs, applied.

In summary, extracting the depreciation and deferred grants (£126,672) because these are accounting requirements, the bottom line is the actual expenditure and cost of service amounted to £382,709 against a revised budget of £447,504.

A lot of the variances between the actual income/expenditure against original and revised budget are due to the uncertainties around COVID. The halls and café/bar have generated £21,500 more income than anticipated – although costs have been higher but within that budgeted. Cemetery income has been higher than predicted too.

Where possible some of the budget underspends have been rolled over into earmarked reserves for committed expenditure or to provide for a contingency towards bringing the grounds maintenance service in house.

If Members have any questions in particular please email the Town Clerk and she will respond on her return from annual leave.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Having declared a Climate Change Emergency at its Council meeting on 26 June 2019 – with this in mind Councillors should have due regard to the environmental impact of any decisions they make with regard to its facilities and services it operates.

RISK

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

Proper and sound financial management is necessary as all Councillors are collectively responsible for the budget, particularly expenditure and ensuring it is expended lawfully and in line with the Council's Financial Regulations.

As Town Clerk, the Council's Proper Officer and Responsible Financial Officer it is her job to advise accordingly, in line with Financial Regulations and Statute.

When revising the budgets given the uncertainty around the pandemic at the time, prudence was applied to income generated as part of the Council's risk management.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report forms part of the Council's due diligence and a process in line with its Financial Regulations. The financial implications are detailed above and also in the attached appendices.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are invited to note the report.