



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW

The last 12 months has been a particularly problematic for all regarding income & bills, with 129.4% increase to Gas prices in the 12 months to January 2023 along with a 66.7% increase to electricity prices in the same period. Unlike many other local Parishes, Harlington Parish Council (HPC) owns and maintains the Parish Hall. The running and maintenance costs of the Parish Hall form a significant part of the precept. The parish council also owns and maintains over 140 streetlamps, it is impossible to predict the ongoing fuel costs, so caution has been the watchword.

The economic climate has also impacted of the many Harlington constituted organisations and funding assistance and grant requests were higher than usual, the Parish Council has and will continue to support these groups.

Harlington Pond

The County Wildlife Officer has visited the site annually and in 2022 a report was submitted that has been adopted as the template to restore the area. HPC engaged the services of the Beds Conservation Volunteers (BCV), their frequent visits along with village volunteers has seen some significant progress and these improvements will be added to over the forthcoming year.

Harlington Garden Cemetery

This cemetery was opened in 2002 and the calculations at the time anticipated that the area would be sufficient to serve the village for the following 100 years. However, those original calculations could not have anticipated the exponential growth that the village is facing. Further pressure on the available space has been experienced because of a lack of cemetery availability in surround towns and villages.

Traffic Calming

HPC match funded CBC to install two new Speed Indicator Devices (sited on Barton Road and Goswell End Road), reports so far indicate they are helping deter the cars speeding through the village, this is further assisted by the new Speed Watch team who are highly active in helping make the streets of Harlington safer. HPC's goal has and is to have a blanket 20mph speed limit in Harlington.

Planned projects (new and continuations) for this financial year

- Pond – further work is planned, and more volunteers are welcome. Strategic tree felling, at least two of the water draining trees will be felled and laid to create bug hotels. This will be offset by Village wide tree planting.
- Village entry gates - will be repainted.
- Play Area - Safety work will be undertaken.
- Harlington Garden Cemetery (HGC) - Additional hedging between the Natural/green burial area and lawn burial area. A modern software package will be in place. A letterbox for lost loved ones. A new Memorial Wall
- Lincoln Way Cemetery – Maintenance to the cemetery hut
- Parish Hall - Funds to maintain the upkeep of the parish hall building. To treat the encroaching damp, repair the Middle room door and repair/replace the middle room floor.
- Parish Hall – installation of baby changing facilities.
- A Permanent tree situated at the Parish Hall for any & all festive occasions. Initially this will only be 6' tall and grow by 2' per year. This step is in keeping with HPCs green drive. Additional rope lights will adorn the village due to the popular reception of last years display.
- The village car park. - To dig out & shore up the land slippage that has slowly encroached into the car park claiming more than a foot in some areas.
- Wingate Road Wildlife Area – ongoing maintenance.

M Harris.

HARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
YEAR ENDED: 31 MARCH 2023



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Staff Costs	61,878	54,124
All Other Costs	73,429	84,325
	135,307	138,449

Current Assets

Current assets have increased to £189,196 (2022: £169,732).

The overall increase is a result of an increase in the cash balances in 2023.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Trade Debtors	38	1,052
Prepayments	1,005	5,624
Cash	183,617	156,994
VAT	4,536	6,062
	189,196	169,732

Current Liabilities

Current liabilities have increased to £12,287 (2022: £19,828). This is due to the decrease in trade creditors in 2023.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Trade Creditors	8,928	17,830
Accruals	2,711	1,324
Deferred Income	638	674
PAYE & NIC	10	-
	12,287	19,828

Reserves

Reserves have increased to £176,908 (2022: £149,905).

This is due to the trading surplus for the year of £27,003 (2022: £17,432). There have been no fixed asset additions in the year so the net surplus also totals £27,003.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Reserves	176,908	149,905

HARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
YEAR ENDED: 31 MARCH 2023



BALANCE SHEET

	31-Mar- 23	31-Mar- 22	Variance	Variance
	£	£	£	%
Current Assets				
1100 - Trade Debtors	38	1,052	(1,014)	(97)
1110 - Prepayments	1,005	5,624	(4,619)	(82)
1201 - Unity Current	21,696	36,205	(14,509)	(40)
1202 - Unity Ring Fenced	115,068	74,351	40,717	55
1203 - Unity Reserve	46,853	46,438	415	-
2207 - VAT Debtor	4,536	6,062	(1,526)	(25)
Total Current Assets	<u>189,196</u>	<u>169,732</u>	19,464	11
Current Liabilities				
2100 - Trade Creditors	8,928	17,830	(8,902)	(49)
2101 - Accruals	2,711	1,324	1,387	105
2102 - Deferred Income	638	674	(36)	(5)
2210 - PAYE & NIC	10	-	10	100
Total Current Liabilities	<u>12,287</u>	<u>19,828</u>	(7,541)	(38)
Net Assets / Liabilities	<u>176,909</u>	<u>149,904</u>	27,005	18
Reserves				
3102 - Finance & General-Purpose Reserve	176,909	149,904	27,005	18
	<u>176,909</u>	<u>149,904</u>	27,005	18
Reserves Detail				
General Reserve	118,609	91,604	27,005	29
Earmarked Reserves	58,300	58,300	-	-
	<u>176,909</u>	<u>149,904</u>	27,005	18

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Councillor – M Harris, Chairman

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Clerk - S Wilks

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Minute Reference

HARLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
YEAR ENDED: 31 MARCH 2023

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS SUMMARY

	31-Mar-23	
	£	£
Receipts		
4000 - Hall Hire Fees		5,514
4001 - Alloment Rents		1,344
4002 - Funeral Fees		13,193
4003 - Grave Digger Sales Disbursements		1,650
4009 - Grass Cutting Grant CBC		1,114
4100 - Precept		138,715
4400 – Office Rent		120
4802 - Store Rental Room 1, 2 & 3		612
4900 - Other income		1,578
		<u>163,840</u>
Payments		
5001 – Grave Digger Costs	1,529	
7000 - Gross Wages	47,115	
7006 - Employers NI	2,802	
7007 - Employer's Pension	11,962	
7100 - Utilities – Water (Wave-AWA)	748	
7101 - Utilities - CBC Non Domestic Rates	5,004	
7102 - Utilities - Refuse Collection	1,914	
7198 - Utilities - Electricity	6,469	
7199 - Utilities - Gas	5,411	
7201 - Utilities - Telephone & Broadband	492	
7222 - IT Support	2,924	
7500 – Car Park Maintenance	300	
7510 - Office and Parish Hall Running Costs	5,997	
7555 – Rental to HLT For Bury Orchard	200	
7565 – Street Lighting Lamp Post Maintenance	3,006	
7599 – Ear Marked Fund Expenditure	9,344	
7601 - Accountancy & Audit	1,628	
7602 - Professional Fees, Dues & Subscriptions	1,476	
7604 - Training & Conferences For Officers & Councillors	465	
7610 - Insurance	1,113	
7700 - Rolling Maintenance	21,168	
7708 – Street Lamp Upgrades	2,388	
7810 – Harlington Plants (HiB) Vol	769	
7813 - Festive Tree & Installation	786	
7900 - Bank charges and interest	146	
9000 - Grants & Donations	1,680	
		<u>136,836</u>
Surplus for the Year		<u><u>27,003</u></u>