

**HAWARDEN  
COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL**



**CYNGOR  
CYMUNED  
PENARLAG**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE  
12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020  
AGENDA ITEM NO: 8  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE REPORT 2020/21**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report and attached summary is to apprise the Council of the income and expenditure position of the Council during the first half of the financial year.
- 1.2 A separate report will be produced relating to the central administration and direct maintenance services and will be sent to Members of the Joint Committee which comprises representatives of the three participating Councils.
- 1.3 The remainder of the Council's income and expenditure is as shown on the attached summary.
- 1.4 Income of £179,776 has been received to date which, in the main, relates to the first two instalments of a three staged payment of the Council's Annual Precept. In the second half of the year a further £89,659 will be received via the final precept payment on 31 December 2020.

**2.0 BACKGROUND:**

- 2.1 The following identifies the reasons for any significant variances from anticipated expenditure incurred in the first half of this financial year i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

**2.2 General:**

**Health and Safety/Equipment:** there has been an increased spend on equipment and protective clothing due to the Covid-19 pandemic and to ensure the protection of all staff members.

**IT Systems Maintenances and Subs:** a one-off payment for the establishment of virtual meetings via GoToMeeting software has been included to enable the council to continue to meet during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Insurance:** the full amount payable for the year has been made.

**Mandatory Members Allowances:** It is mandatory to budget for this amount each year at £150 per member. However, following the Council's Annual General meeting most Councillors elected to forgo this payment and transfer the money to the Hawarden High School Bursary Scheme or another community project. One member requested that his allowance be received and donated personally to the Mancot Pensioners. There is a balance of £2850. Members have requested that £450 be allocated to the Hawarden High School Bursary awards leaving a balance of £2,400 to be transferred to ear marked reserves for member allowances next year or to another community project. Some Councillors have indicated that they wish an amount to be donated to the Nanny Biscuit project.

**Legal Fees/Welsh Language Policy:** The drawing up of the lease for the pavilion is estimated to be in the region of £600 and negotiations are still pending. Additional costs might be incurred following the request from the 1st Hawarden Scout Group to lease additional land.

In addition, with the progress of the new Community Centre at Ewloe there could be additional legal costs incurred by the Council. However, the Clerk and Financial Officer has asked that the developer be asked to pay for any of the Council's legal costs as the land in question was to be "gifted" to the Council at no cost. This item is to be discussed separately later on the agenda for this meeting.

**Chairman's Fund:** in order to enable virtual meetings a laptop was purchased for the Chairman of the Council to actively participate and practically chair council meetings. (Covid-19)

**Elections and Member Training:** There have been no by-elections or physical training to date. A number of virtual training programmes have been circulated but no members have attended to date.

### 2.3 **Community Funding:**

**Play Schemes:** The payment request from Flintshire County Council has not yet been received for 2020.

**Voluntary Organisations:** The Council is due to consider grant applications elsewhere on this agenda this evening.

**Community Centres Annual Grants:** The 2020/21 grants have all been issued.

**Youth Support:** the payment for the 2020/21 bursary scheme is currently being processed. As stated above, £450 has been added to this fund from Members.

- 2.4 **Open Spaces/Highways/Verges:**  
**Bowling Greens:** The annual grants to Aston Bowling Club, Gladstone Bowling Club and Mancot Bowling Club have not yet been issued pending the review of fees and charges elsewhere on this agenda. Rents are normally due in October.
- 2.5 **Public Lighting:** A number of service transfers will be implemented before the end of the financial year subject to the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions being lifted.
- 2.6 **Allotments:** Allotment rents are due in November and should be increased in line with the cost of inflation. This will be considered as part of a separate report on this agenda.
- 2.7 **Holding Account:** An amount of £20,000 has been set aside for the provision of a new community centre at Ewloe. The development has now been completed and a separate report about the progress of this scheme will be considered elsewhere on this agenda. There has been no call for the contingency fund to date.

3.00 **CONSIDERATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 3.1 Members are asked to:
- i. note and approve the contents of this report; and
  - ii. consider the virement of the balance of Member Allowances (£2,400) allocation to some other community project or to ear marked reserves for the 2021/22 member allowances.