

Clerk's Financial Report – Annual Parish Meeting 11.05.2026

Introduction

As Responsible Financial Officer, I am pleased to present a summary of Rendham Parish Council's financial position for the 2025/26 financial year. The Council has continued to manage its finances prudently, ensuring value for money while supporting essential village services and community priorities.

1. Precept and Income

- The **precept for 2025/26** was **£3074.21**, representing a stable and sustainable level of funding for the Council's core responsibilities.

Additional income included:

- **UK Power Network Lease:** £1200.00
- **VAT reclaim:** £1059.26
- **Bank interest:** £61.51 (HSBS and Suffolk Building Society)
- **Grants received:** £798.00 (Fete and from PARK)

Total net income for the year: **£6192.98**

2. Expenditure Overview

The Council's expenditure remained within budget across all categories. Key areas of spending included:

- **Administration & Clerk's costs** (£1800.91) – salary, HMRC, training, stationery, website, bank charges
- **Insurance and ICO** (£526.03) – annual premium covering council assets and public liability and GDPR compliance
- **Village maintenance** (£812.54) – grass cutting on the playing field, defibrillator maintenance
- **Community support** (£1018.50) – newsletter printing, contributions to village initiatives
- **New infrastructure** (£170.00) – dog waste bin

Total net expenditure for the year: **£4327.98**

3. Reserves

The Council maintains reserves in line with recommended guidance to ensure financial stability.

- **General Reserve:** £1493.90 (HSBC savings account)
- **Bank Closing Balances at the end of the year:** £4151.52 (BoS) and £1576.67 (Suffolk Building Society)

Reserves remain at a healthy level to support both planned and unforeseen expenditure.

5. Projects and Financial Activity During the Year

Key financial actions and projects included:

- Installation of a new **dog waste bin**
- Review and update of the **Asset Register**
- Monitoring of **banking arrangements** and council insurance arrangements
- Ensuring timely payment of invoices

6. Looking Ahead to 2026/27

The Council will continue to prioritise:

- Maintaining essential village services
- Supporting community safety and welfare initiatives
- Seeking external funding where appropriate (e.g., locality budgets, other grants)
- Ensuring the precept remains proportionate and justified
- Careful stewardship of public funds in line with statutory duties

Conclusion

Rendham Parish Council remains in a sound financial position, with well-managed expenditure and appropriate reserves. I would like to thank councillors for their support throughout the year and the community for their continued engagement.