



Burston and Shimpling Parish Council

Responsible Financial Officers Annual Report for Year Ending 31st March 2024

It has been a difficult period with higher inflation than we have seen for some years. Whilst acknowledging the pressure this would put on our budget the Parish Council kept the increase in Band D rate to £60.00, a 5% uplift. This raised a Precept of £12,900. The Parish Council agreed a budget of £14,900, to maintain existing services, the difference covered by the savings from the previous year.

This year there haven't been any capital projects but rather building on the existing facilities. The Recreation Ground now has its basketball hoop in place. A community supported and partially crowd funded Pétanque Court has been created near the Pavilion. Also supported by a donation from the B4RN local volunteers.

The legal status of Church Green has been confirmed the costs coming from the Reserve Fund.

The Clerk's laptop and printer had become unfit for purpose and have been updated, especially now many more services are online. There has also been substantial repair work to the older equipment in the play area, which has been paid for from the Asset Replacement fund, designated for this purpose. This has allowed the general expenditure to be within budget.

The Parish Council is exempt from external audit this year and all the required accounting documents will be made available on the website <https://burstonandshimpling.org.uk>

The RFO would like to thank both the previous clerk Ann Baker, and our new Clerk Fran Sharp for their assistance during the year.