

Responsible financial officer's report to the council 17/08/21

1. A council payment card has been applied for, so that I don't need to use my personal credit card. It has not yet been issued.
2. The playing field has been registered. (see clerk's report pt8) I expect that a bill from the solicitors will arrive more quickly than the registration process has taken. Money will have to be moved from the in-year contingency to cover this.
3. The additional litter bins (see clerk's report pt1) are free, but collection will be about £40 per bin per year. This episode has highlighted a discrepancy between the bins the parish council owns, and the number being emptied and charged for. This is being discussed with MSDC.
4. Payments made on behalf of the Fressingfield Community Fund have been balanced in the sum the council holds for FCF.
5. Following the internal audit (details of the report to be discussed initially at the next finance committee meeting), paperwork has been sent to the external auditor. This company of auditors has the contract for all English parish councils. Not surprisingly they give themselves months to finish the job.

The main advisory report comes from the internal auditor. The external audit is more to make sure the whole audit process has been carried out according to the regulations. Hopefully this brief report will be received before the end of September.