

ENMORE PARISH COUNCIL

Report of the Responsible Financial Officer for the Council meeting to be held on 6 May 2025

The current financial year started on 1st April 2025. A separate report and accounts has been issued for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Transactions for the year to date

The precept of £5,253 requested for the current year has been received from Somerset Council. £5,000 of this was put on deposit shortly after its receipt. £13.19 interest was received on the Parish Council's deposits for the calendar month of April. No disbursements have been made so far, other than the deduction of one month's bank charges from the Lloyds account (covering February to March and allowed for in the 2024/25 accounts).

With so little activity I have not included year-to-date accounts in this report.

Assets as at 1st May 2025

Bank balances currently stand at:	£
NatWest deposit account	16,927.20
NatWest current account	291.83
Lloyds Bank	26.91
Total cash in hand	17,245.94
Amount owed by HMRC iro VAT	81.75
Total assets	17,327.69

Payments for discussion and approval

- * The Somerset Association of Local Councils has sent an invoice for £119.27. This figure is made up of £101.92 to SALC and £17.35 in respect of the National Association of Local Councils. The first element is very considerably higher than we paid in previous years (£72.59 for 2024/25) and the second element is new this year. SALC claims that their workload will be considerably greater after the changes to Somerset Council. The increase was not expected at the time the budget was prepared (we have £75 in this year's budget for our SALC subscription).
- * The Parish Council traditionally provides some support for important community events and has been asked to cover the cost of Hall rental (£40) for the forthcoming VE Day +80 celebrations, which are to start at the Hall and then move to the Jubilee Meadow for the lighting of a beacon. This is well within our budget of £150 for such events. Facilitating a sense of community through supporting events of this kind has proved to be very much worthwhile, with both direct and short-term benefits to people attending and longer-term indirect benefits of cooperation and opportunities for inclusion of newer residents.

It is noted that the Parish Council has authorised expenditure of £350 on additional horse and wildlife signage (still to be installed and invoiced).

Other expected invoices that may arrive before the July Parish Council meeting are the domain and website costs. Last year these were £10 and £108 respectively, both figures net of VAT. Because the Parish Council is restricted in the forms of payment available to use, these payments have been paid by the Clerk and the

RFO respectively in past years. I would welcome authorisation to arrange prompt reimbursement after these costs are incurred, subject to reporting the figures to Councillors. We are required to operate a website so these are necessary costs. If there are any very substantial increases over last year's costs, alternatives can be considered but this is not an area where Councillors and their Officers have much expertise.

If these costs are similar to last year, I should be able to make the Section 126 VAT claim at the end of that month, as we will then have over £100 VAT owed to us and therefore meet the criteria to make our next claim.

Anne Stoye
Responsible Financial Officer

1st May 2025