

COVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Annual report

1 April 2022 – 31st March 2023

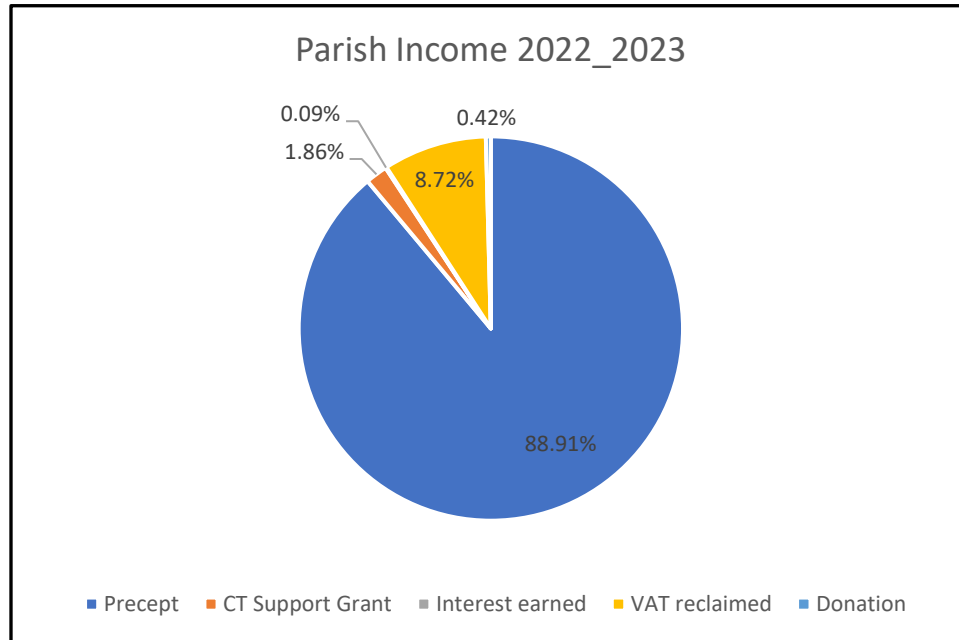
The late Cllr Derek Benfield

- The Parish Council was saddened by the passing of Derek on 26th October 2022.
- A bench was donated by his family and placed in the Memorial Area in Covingham Park
- Derek wrote the words for the dedication stone



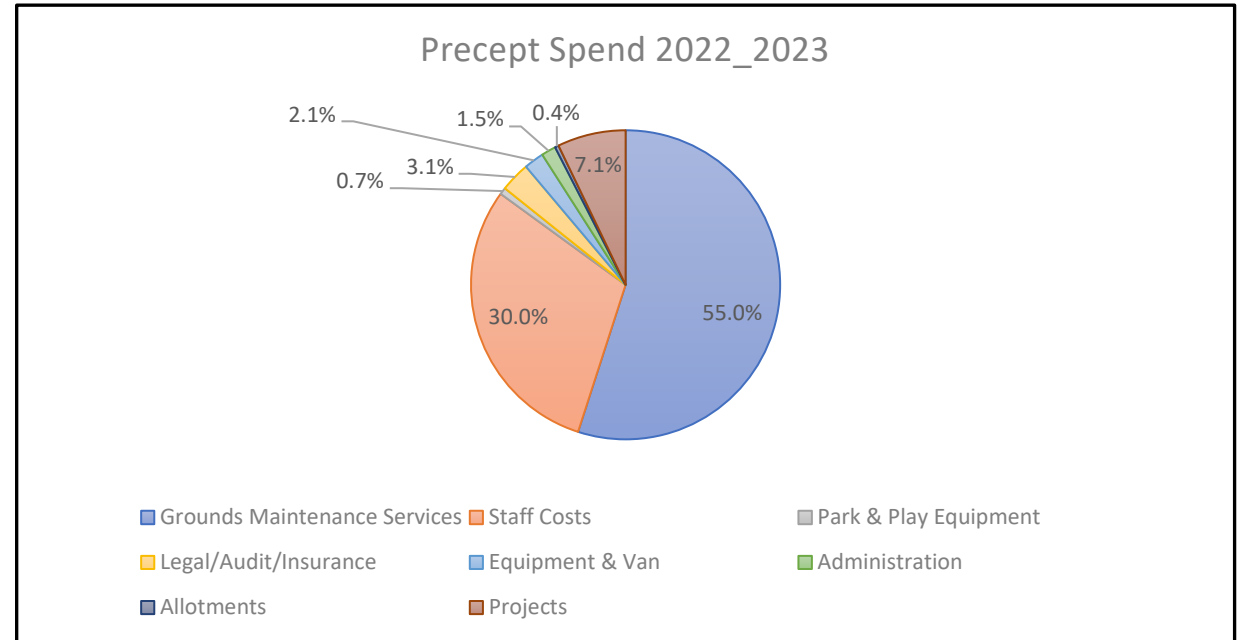
Finance – how the precept was spent

- Income



Income - £148,251.26

- Expenditure



Expenditure - £126,156.76

Employees

Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

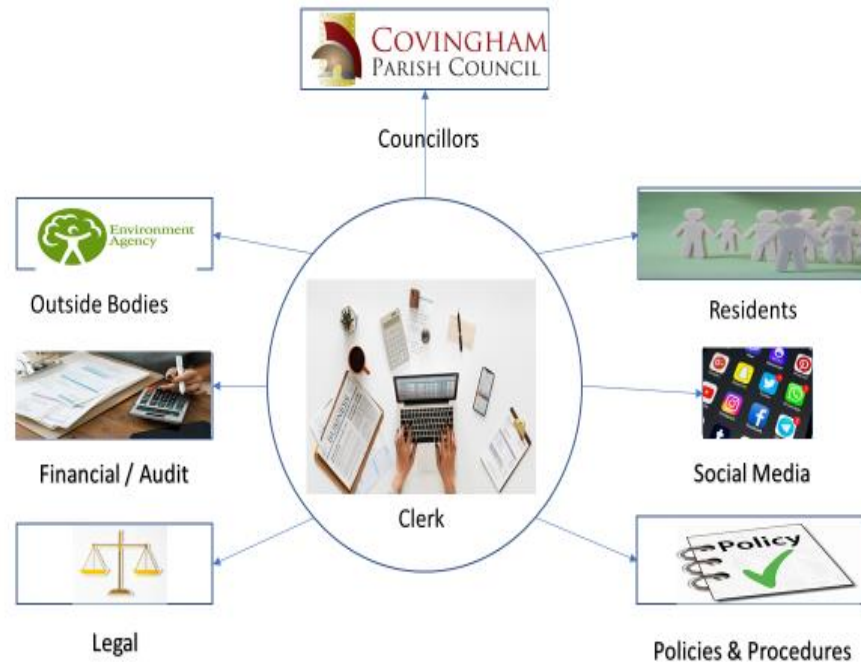
Laura joined in May 2019

Maintenance Team

Simon joined in November 2018

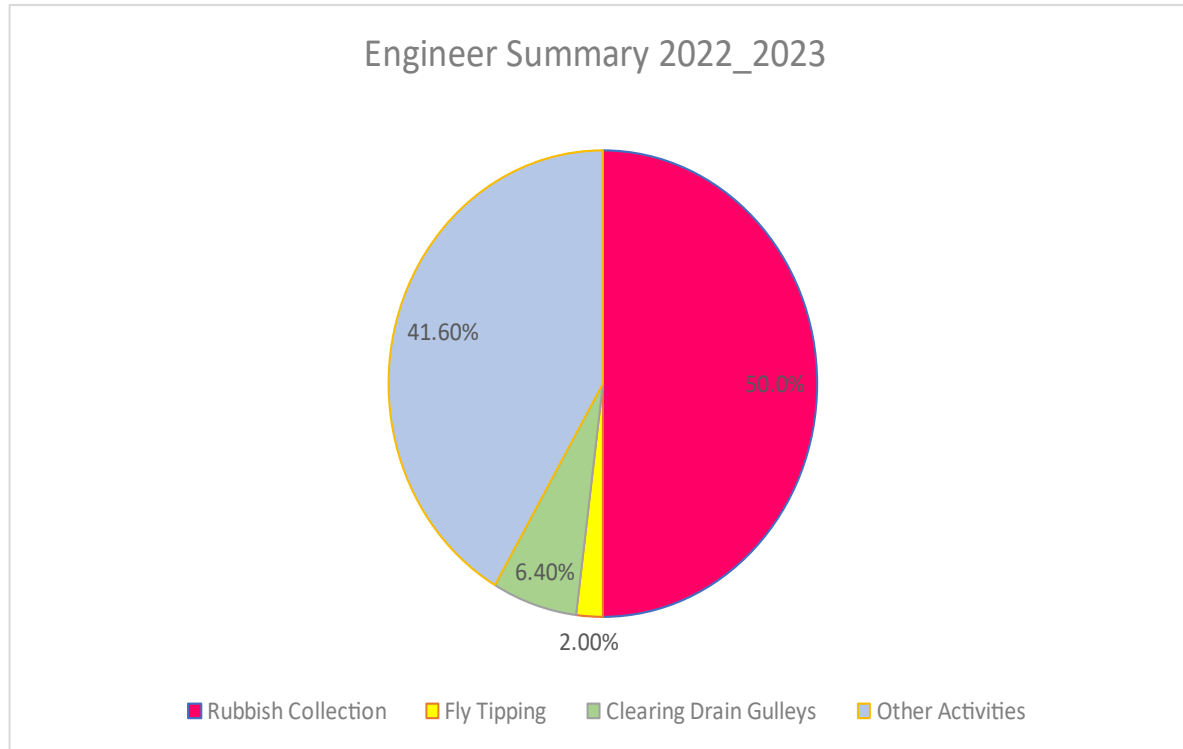
Michael joined in April 2020

Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer – responsibilities



- Employed for 70 hours per month
- Provides full administration support of all Parish Council papers and meetings
- Responsible for the management and control of all financial matters
- Ensures the Parish Council complies with all applicable legislation
- Prepares and collates all information required for the audits
- Liaises with residents and all outside bodies

Maintenance Team – Key facts



- Employed for 20 hours per week, to work 5 days out of 6
- 2640 bags (19.8 tonnes) of litter removed
- 110 instances of fly tipping dealt with
- 1 instance of needles removed and disposed of
- 748 N20 cartridges removed
- 12 dumped push bikes/scooters removed
- 494 drain gulleys cleared
- 106 occasions of epicormic growth removal
- Dorcan Stream checked for blockages weekly
- Graffiti removed on 11 occasions
- 6 Supermarket trolleys returned to the store

Maintenance Team - Parks and play equipment

- Daily safety checks, 6 days out of 7 of all play and exercise equipment
- Monthly safety inspection of all play and exercise equipment
- Annual safety inspection carried out by ROSPA
- Repair and maintenance as required



Grounds Maintenance Services Contract

- Successfully negotiated and awarded a further 3-year contract to Adams & Watt
- 16 grass cuts a year
- 2 hedge cuts a year
- 16 dog bins emptied every week
- Road sweeping once a year
- Regular maintenance of Covingham Square crescent
- Additional works as and when required



**Grounds
Maintenance
Contract -
Additional works**

- The Owlets – before and after
- Removed severely overgrown hedges and ground cover
- Reclaimed large grass area



Grounds Maintenance Contract - Additional works

- Firecrest – before and after
- Continually subjected to anti-social behaviour
- Damaged and vandalised play equipment removed by SBC
- Disrupted drug dens and opened the area up to deter drug related activities



Speed Indicator Devices

- The devices have two functions; one to display to drivers the speed they are doing as they approach the signs and secondly to capture data about the number of vehicles, the speed they are travelling and the time of day or night.
- This information is captured for vehicles in both directions.
- The data captured will be passed to the Police to enable targeted speed checks to be carried out at appropriate locations at the busiest times of day.
- Key data can be viewed on our website www.covingham-pc.gov.uk



Additional achievements

- Welcomed 2 new members – Liam Walker and Steve May
- Successfully completed both Audits with a clean bill of health and no advisories
- Responded to 21 planning applications, some of which related to the New Eastern Villages Development
- Redesigned and launched an updated website
- Laid a footpath to the play areas in Covingham Park
- Continued to build on the effective working relationship with the local Neighbourhood Police Team, this has resulted in improved response times to concerns raised

Work in progress outstanding from 2022- 23 (awaiting SBC decision)

- Finalise the amendment to the lease for Covingham Park to include the outlying areas
- Continue to lobby Swindon Borough Council and the Environment Agency to stabilise Dorcan Brook bank and reinstate the footpath along St Pauls Drive



New projects for 2023 -24

- Allotment provision for Covingham residents
- Replace footpath to play area with tarmac to improve accessibility
- Participate in the 'Trees for Climate' project with additional, appropriate tree planting



Want to know more or to talk to us

Email – clerk@covingham-pc.gov.uk

Telephone – 07401 156254

Website – www.Covingham-pc.gov.uk



Find us on Facebook



Covingham Parish Council Community Page >

🔒 Private group · 928 members