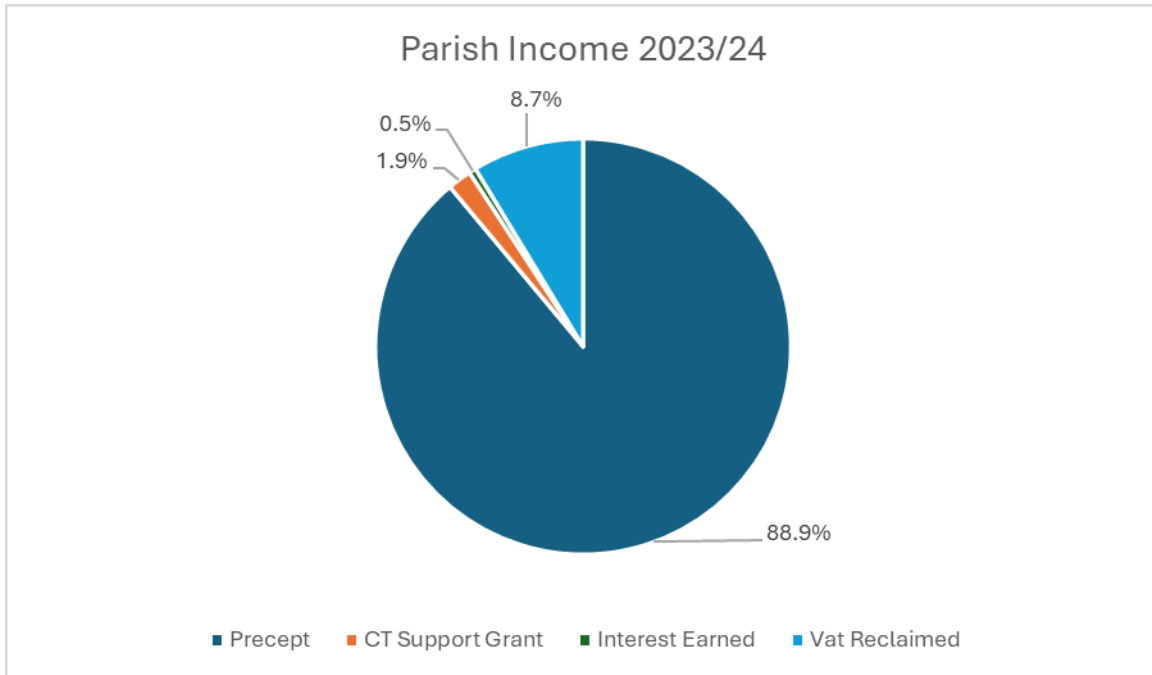


Covingham Parish Council Annual Report

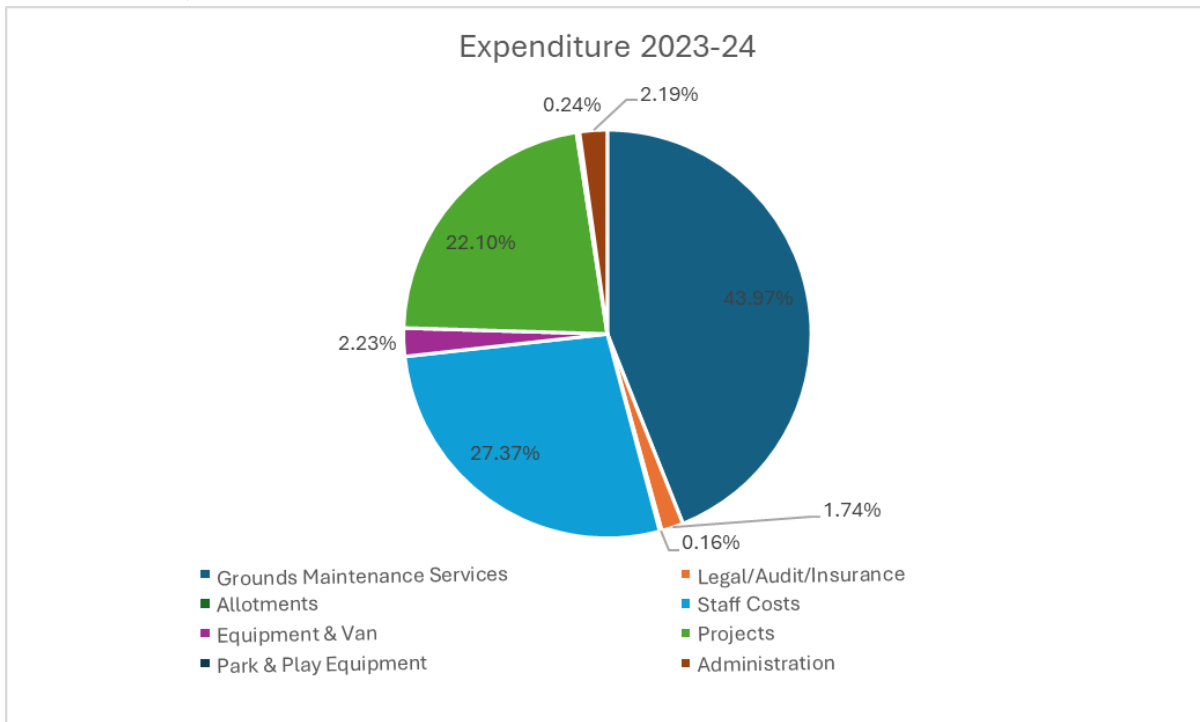
1st April 2023- 31st March 2024

Financial Information for 2023/24

Income



Income- £148,230.55



Expenditure - £157,964.60

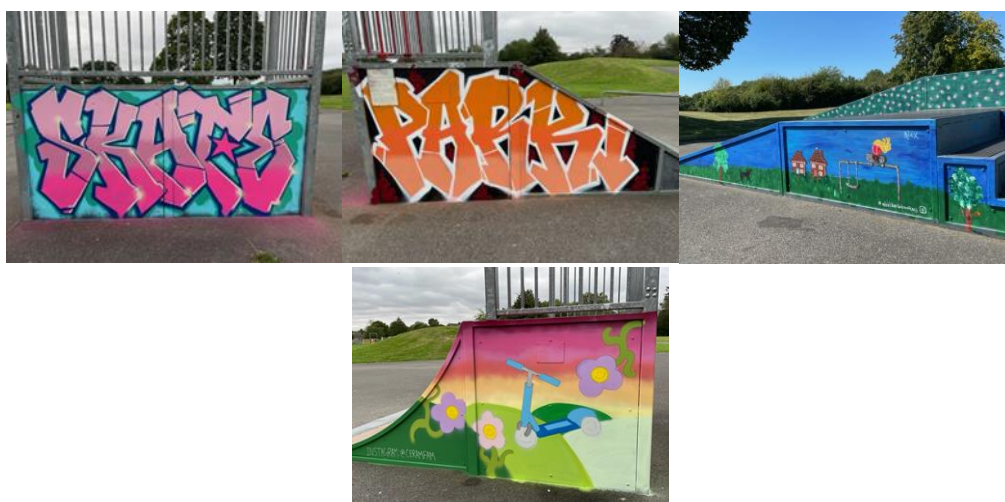
Achievements of 2023/24

Dorcan Brook Bank

After lobbying SBC and the Environment agency regarding the stability of Dorcan Brook Bank. A new safety barrier was installed by the bus stop in St Paul's Drive to mitigate the risk of falling.

Skatepark – Artwork and ramp resurfacing

The Covingham Skatepark had a re-vamp with local street artists using their skills to decorate the equipment which has resulted in no offensive or irrelevant graffiti appearing on the equipment. To further compliment the work of the artists and due to the surfaces of the ramps being worn, the Parish Council located a company who resurfaced the ramps with steel and these have a longer life span.



Donation of a bench to St Paul's

St Paul's Church & Community Centre approached the Parish for a grant towards a new bench for outside the building. The Parish had a spare bench for which there was no use, this was donated to St Paul's along with a donation of a flowerbox, for which they were very grateful.

Grounds Maintenance

71 items of additional work were identified on the annual walkaround with the contractor. All items have been completed. Many thanks go to Adams & Watt for the excellent work carried out.

Approval of Underpass Project

The Parish Council were approached by the local PSCO with a project to improve the look of the underpass on Dorcan Way, Covingham/Nythe, working in collaboration with NEL Parish Council and the Youth Offending Team, who had secured funding for the project.

Both Covingham PC and NEL PC agreed to the project which will really improve the look of the underpass.

Allotment Provision

Unfortunately, there is not a site available for allotments in the Covingham area but the Parish Council are working closely with Wanborough PC/ Wanborough Allotment Committee to ensure Covingham residents are treated equally when applying for a plot.

Works in progress/outstanding from 2023/24

Naming of the footpath

A request was made to Swindon Borough Council to name the footpath from Pinnegar Way to St Pauls Drive in memory of the Late Cllr Derek Benfield. The request for this is still with SBC.

Lease

Finalisation of the amendment of the lease for Covingham Park to include outlying areas is still continuing.

Trees for Climate Project

After meeting with the lead on this project and identifying areas for appropriate trees, nothing more has been heard regarding this project. Covingham Park was one of the locations identified but due to the outstanding lease the ownership still lies with SBC.

Transfer of Services

SBC need to identify significant savings to ensure it can meet its obligation of delivering a balanced budget for 2024/25. One of the options put forward was to work with Parish Councils to devolve more services. Talks are still ongoing with regular meetings taking place.

Projects for 2024/25

Weed Spraying

Weed spraying in the area will now be done by Adams & Watt as last year no weed spraying was carried out by SBC and the most complaints received are regarding weeds.