

# Disley Parish Council Annual Report

Finance Report for 2017-18 by Cllr. Liz Chavasse-Hadfield,  
Chairman of Disley Parish Council Finance Committee



The balance sheet and finance report for Disley Parish Council for 2017/18 (subject to audit) is presented. All income and expenditure has been accounted for.

## Income

Total income from all sources (excluding reclaimed VAT) was £335,500. Included in this total is £150,500 proceeds from the sales of the former DPC offices at 19 Buxton Old Road, Disley. This money has been placed into reserves and is only legally permitted to be used for capital expenditure projects. It has not (and cannot be) used to subsidise the precept or fund the day-to-day running of the Council.

Other income for 2017/18 totalled £185,000 with the significant items as follows:

- £150,000 raised from the precept, compared to £134,500 the previous year.
- £12,189 from Community Centre Hire Charges. This represented an increase of 5.5% in comparison to the previous year and was a good result considering the disruption caused by building work.
- £5,610 from land rental income including grazing land and Disley Dam. This was a decrease of 15% owing to a bad debtor.
- £5,413 recharged to Cheshire East Council for Disley Library utility and maintenance costs. This represents the Cheshire East share of the building expenses for the library.
- £1,805 grant received to support the Neighbourhood Plan.
- £1,034 profit from the Community Bus Scheme. This was possible due to the hard work of the volunteer drivers and Helen Richards in the Parish Office. This is ring-fenced to fund future bus operations. A joint volunteer, councillor and bus user working group are investigating possibilities for the purchase of a replacement bus.

## Expenditure

### Overall

Councillors are grateful to the Parish Clerk and Administration Assistant for exercising good financial control and we appreciate their significant efforts to achieve good value for money for the village, especially this year with the development of the community centre.

The significant item of capital expenditure was £57,689 to fund building and relocation costs of moving the Parish Offices to the Community Centre. This was financed from capital reserves, which have been replenished by the sale of the former office on Buxton Old Road.

### Major expenditure items:

- £77,828 total employment costs of Parish Council Officers which was on budget and in line with last year.

### • Community Centre

Community Centre Hire Charges	£12,189	
Community Centre Maintenance Recharge to CEC	£5,413	
Other income	£276	
Total Funding		<b>£17,878</b>
Less Total Running Costs		<b>£20,976</b>
Overall cost of the Community Centre in 2017/18		<b>£3,098</b>

Offsetting this are the savings from the closure of the former Parish Offices on Buxton Road. The year-on-year running costs of the former Parish Offices reduced by £1,213, so the net cost of the Community Centre including the Parish Offices was £1,885.

As the premises sale only completed in January, it is anticipated that the Community Centre/Parish Office will run at break even in 2018/19 as further savings such as business rates are made.

- £14,864 general office and administration costs e.g. conveyancing fees, telephones, insurances, website and production of the Disley News etc.
- £11,918 Parish Council contribution to the Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) service which was in line with last year.
- £16,522 Parish maintenance including street lighting, allotments, CCTV contribution, hanging basket displays, play areas and all areas of the village under the Parish Council's responsibility.
- £4,163 from a specific reserve for progressing the village neighbourhood plan
- £2,000 as a final payment on an interest free loan from Cheshire East.

### Village Events & Grants

The Parish Council co-ordinated or supported a range of events during 2017/18 for the benefit of residents and to enjoy the wonderful environment in which we live. These included:

- £5,544 to dress the village for Christmas and hold the annual Christmas Tree lighting event, which, supported by village residents and traders, was again a great success. The cost included the provision of Christmas trees, new tree lights, village decorations and firework display.
- £515 grant towards the cost of the Disley BikeFest cycling festival. This was a joint event with Disley PTA.
- £100 towards the cost of staging the first Disley Health & Well-being Show.
- £3,000 granted to local community groups and events through the Parish Council's Community Grant Scheme.

### Councillor Expenses

Parish Councillors are elected on a voluntary basis and are unpaid. The elected Chairman of Disley Parish Council receives an annual allowance of £540. In 2017/18 councillors expenses (all for mileage) totalled £79.20

### Looking forward to 2018/19

Despite some unforeseen costs during the year, due to the careful management of expenditure, the Parish's General Reserve at the end of the year is £45,591. This includes a 25% of precept Working Balance Reserve as specified in the Council's Financial Regulations.

The Council hopes to make savings in overall running costs from the sale and relocation of the Parish Offices to the Community Centre. The Parish will no longer be required to contribute to the PCSO in 2018/19 and the final repayment has been made on a Cheshire East loan. In contrast, there will be nationally agreed increases in employment costs and the Council will be utilising a book-keeping service to maximise the time and skills of the Parish Clerk. The Council has committed to procuring a vehicle for the Village Handyman Service and may face repair costs for the Community Centre.

The council is delighted to announce that it has been able to avoid any increases in the precept for 2018/19 and for a band D property, the precept will remain at £74.40.