

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer's Report-2014

We started the year with a precept of £47,233 and this represented an increase on the previous year of £682. For the first time, the Parish council also received a Government Grant of £4,723.

The Parish Council was able to continue supporting a number of local organisations such as First Responders, Shotley Social Club and Village Hall to name but a few. A total of £5,583 was spent in grant funding.

At the end of the financial year, the Parish Council's total reserves stood at £33,241.48 and the assets owned by the Parish Council amounted to £102,065. Please note these are unaudited accounts. Audited accounts results will be made available on the website or by request to the Clerk.

In January 2014 I took over the role of Clerk to the Parish in addition to my existing role of RFO. I knew it would be a challenging position and was under no illusions that it would be a demanding role. I am very glad I did it though. I am thoroughly enjoying getting more and more involved with what goes on in the village and now feel a certain sense of responsibility whenever I see something that needs doing. Please be warned, as you will often find me looking down drains, checking overgrown trees or having all kinds of meetings with men in high visibility jackets.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Linda, our former Clerk, the best of luck in her new job and home. We exchanged many hundreds of e-mails and phone calls in the eight years we worked together and I will miss her.

I would like to ask Shotley residents to please not hesitate to pick up the phone or drop me an e-mail should they come across anything that they think could be improved or needs to be dealt with in the village. Or even if they just want to know what the Parish Council is all about.

Dina Bedwell

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Shotley Parish Council