STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN TOWN COUNCIL

4th JUNE 2024

FINAL ACCOUNTS 2023/24 Report by the Treasurer

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To report to the Council the actual expenditure and income figures for 2023/24, how these compare with the Council's 2023/24 budget and how it leaves the Council's finances at the end of the financial year.

2. BACKGROUND

A previous item on your agenda was the report of the Council's internal auditor which, I am pleased to note, includes the statement that '...there are no matters of any significance that need to be brought to your attention....'.. The final accounts for 2023/24 are attached. The Council is required to approve and publish the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (which includes key figures from the final accounts) by 1st July. PKF Littlejohn LLF will then conduct the external audit and during this time the accounts will be available for public inspection by any interested party wishing to exercise their statutory rights. The publication date for final audited accounts is 30th September.

3. COMPARISON WITH ORIGINAL BUDGET

In the extract from the summary revenue account below you will see, halfway down, that the 'Total Net Expenditure' shows as £379,519 in the Actual column compared with £370,320 in the Original Budget column. There is, therefore, an 'overspend' of £379,519 less £370,320 i.e. £9,199.

	Original	Actual
	Budget(£)	(£)
1. ADMINISTRATION	52,664	45,306
2. COST OF DEMOCRACY	69,768	65,072
3.SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC	13,420	868
4. MEMORIAL PARK + TOWN GARDENS	126,604	124,235
5. CEMETERY	12,745	47,831
6. ALLOTMENTS	9,419	8,928
7. NON-RECURRING	4,900	10,064
8. STOURPORT CIVIC CENTRE	4,200	8,611
9. STOURPORT RIVERSIDE	74,500	70,050
10. COMMUNITY CENTRE, MEMORIAL PARK	2,100	-1,445
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	370,320	379,519
Funded by:		
11. PRECEPT ON WYRE FOREST D. C.	335,866	335,866
12. VEHICLES/EQUIPT FUND	1,965	0
13. ELECTION FUND	22,000	19,041
DEFICIT FOR YEAR	10 ,490	24,612

The most significant variations, most of which were drawn to the attention of Finance Committee in the budget report in February as part of the revised estimates for 2023/24, are as follows:

	£000 £000
Benign variations:	
Community Centre kitchen – grant from UK Prosperity Fund	9.5
Interest received - arising from increased interest rates	9.3
Christmas Lights - effect of grants received	7.4
Grave-digging - saving from reduced number of burials	6.0
Grants to organisations incl. churchyards – paid after year-end	4.7
Salaries – net saving compared to budget	3.9
Community Centre – surplus of £1,445 v 'spend' budget of £2,100	3.5
Riverside toilets – spend less than budgeted	3.5
Localism - legal and property advice -budget not spent	3.0
Elections – small saving compared with budget	3.0
Other minor variations (net underspend)	4.3
	58.1
Adverse variations:	36.1
Burial fee income	-40.7
Community Centre – 3 new doors	-7.2
Civic Group – rent of Civic Hall	-7.2 -5.5
Sink hole behind Civic Hall	-4.5
Memorial Park – bandstand safety repairs	-3.6
Email addresses for councillors	-2.1
Civic Hall – building maintenance – day-to-day	-2.0
Civic Hall – RAAC (concrete) survey	-1.7
Civic Hall – KAAC (collectic) survey	<u>-1.7</u>
	-67.3
NET 'OVERSPEND' FOR YEAR	9.2
	==

4. COMPARISON OF 'ACTUAL' WITH REVISED ESTIMATE

The net overspend of £9,200 compares with a projected overspend of around £58,000 in the revised estimate included in the budget report in February. The variations that were forecast at revised estimate stage have been realised indicating that spending v budget is under control. There have, however, been other variations since revised estimate stage that were not foreseeable – the major ones are:

- Paddling pool resurfacing £35,000 work carried out after end of financial year rather than before;
- Grants to organisations including re churchyards Grants Committee met in March but payments were not made until the new financial year.

5. FINANCIAL POSITION AT YEAR-END

In the original budget, the Council had budgeted to use around £10,500 of its balances to support the budget. In the actual year-end position, the Council will use £24,600 of its balances. The Council's working balance at 31st March 2024 is, as a result, now £73,455. This maintains the Council's strong financial position when compared to its approved policy of maintaining a working balance of at least £70,000. This is, of course, good news but this has been a little fortuitous this time in that some payments which were forecast to be made before the end of March have, in fact, been made later than that in the new financial year.

6. RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee recommend that the Town Council approve, subject to audit, the final accounts for 2023/24. This report has been prepared by Graham Shaw, Treasurer who will be pleased to respond to any questions arising (however will not be at the meeting of Finance Committee).



STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN TOWN COUNCIL

Final Accounts 2023/24



STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE FINAL ACCOUNTS 2023/24 - SUMMARY

2022/23		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Actual		Original	Revised	ll.	Overspend
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budget
£		£	£	£	£
50,386	1. ADMINISTRATION	52,664	46,635	45,306	- 7,358
49,989	2. COST OF DEMOCRACY	69,768	62,494	65,072	- 4,696
9,187	3. SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC	13,420	6,120	868	12,552
110,054	4. MEMORIAL PARK, TOWN GARDENS ETC.	126,604	122,559	124,235	~ 2,369
12,272	5. CEMETERY	12,745	50,809	47,831	35,086
13,810	6. ALLOTMENTS	9,419	9,432	8,928	- 491
13,396	7. NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURE	4,900	48,963	10,064	5,164
1,202	8. STOURPORT CIVIC CENTRE	4,200	10,259	8,611	4,411
67,939	9. STOURPORT RIVERSIDE	74,500	73,500	70,050	- 4,450
5,762	10. STOURPORT COMMUNITY CENTRE	2,100	= 2,500	₌ 1,445	- 3,545
333,997	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	370,320	428,271	379,519	9,199
- 305,245	11. PRECEPT ON WYRE FOREST D. C.	- 335,866	- 335,866	- 335,866	- 0
e.	12. FUNDING FROM CIVIC HALL FUND		- 26,000	-	
1 100	13. FUNDING FROM ELECTION FUND	- 22,000	- 24,215	- 19,041	2,959
	14. FUNDING FROM COMPTER/VEHCLE FUND		- 8,465	-	1,965
28,752	DEFICIT ON YEAR	10,489	33,725	24,612	14,122
	WORKING BALANCE PROJECTION				
126,819	Balance at 1st April	80,610	98,067	98,067	
28,752	Less deficit on year	10,490	33,725	24,612	
					ļ
98,067	Surplus Working Balance at 31st March	70,120	64,342	73,455]



2022/23		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Actual		Original	Revised		Overspend
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budge
£	1. ADMINISTRATION	£	£	£	£
	Expenditure				
	Employees				1
230,397	Salaries and Wages	248,000	241,000	244,074	≈ 3,92
204,636	Less: Recharges	- 220,286	- 214,068	- 216,798	3,48
25,761	Net Salaries and Wages	27,714	26,932	27,275	s 43
1,619	Indirect Employee Costs	700	700	1,571	87
	Supplies and Services				
371	Office Equipment	100	100		- 10
3,048	Printing and Photocopying	3,000	3,000	3,486	48
1,123	Books, Vending and Stationery	800	800	555	- 24
	Donay ventum gand otation c.y		555	333	
1,560	Audit Fees	1,550	1,800	1,800	25
1,814	Postage and Telephones	2,000	2,000	1,776	- 22
1,000	Contribution to Computer/Equipt/Blgs	1,100	1,100	1,100	
399	Bank Charges	600	600	462	1
8,244	Insurances	8,700	10,000	9,438	7:
4,692	Health and Safety Service	5,000	5,316	5,316	3
0	Health and Safety Inspections	300		360	
3,063	CALC subscription	2,300	2,187	3,210	9:
-28	Miscellaneous	100	100		- 5:
52,666	Total Expenditure	53,964	54,635	55,856	1,8
	Income				
2,280	Interest Received	- 1,300	- 8,000	10,551	9,2
50,386	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	52,664	46,635	45,306	- 7,3

49,989	OTAL NET EXPENDITURE	69,768	62,494	65,072	- 4,690
49,989	Total Expenditure	69,768	62,494	65,072	- 4,690
6,000	Elections - Contribution to reserve	7,000	7,000	7,000	(25)
6,747	Elections	22,000	15,215	19,041	- 2,95
1,225	Civic Occasions	1,500	1,500	767	- 73
6,582	Mayor Expenses	7,250	6,989	6,879	. 37
	Other Expenses	100	578	242	14
534	Printing	700	700	410	- 29
1,061	Mayors chain engraving, robe, etc.	1,100	1,240	1,240	14
0	Supplies and Services Mayoral Board	150	150	0	- 15
27,840	Employees Salary and Wages Recharged	29,968	29,122	29,493	- 47
£	2. COST OF DEMOCRACY Expenditure	£	£	£	£
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budge
2022/23 Actual		2023/24 Original	2023/24 Revised	2023/24	2023/24 Overspend

2022/23		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Actual		Original	Revised		Overspend
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budget
£	3. SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC	£	£	£	£
	Expenditure				
	Repair and Maintenance of Buildings				
250	Town Clock winding +maintce	270	270	350	80
	Supplies and Services				
-200	Grants to Organisations	3,000	3,000		- 3,000
0	Other Grants incl. Churchyds	1,650	1,650	2	- 1,650
6,897	Christmas Lights	6,000	=	- 1,409	- 7,409
1,000	Website - ongoing costs	1,000	1,000	1,000	-
1,154	Town Twinning	1,300	2	868	- 432
	High Street Task Force		0	60	60
86	Bus Shelters				Ę.
0	Street Sign 30 mph	200	200		- 200
9,187	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	13,420	6,120	868	- 12,552

110,054	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	126,604	122,559	1,951	- 1,39 - 2,36
-258 258	Other income Total Income -	558	1,308	- 1,401 - 1,951	- 1,40
-258	Rent - Land Com Cen A Kings Rec	-500	-500 -750	-500 - 1,401	1,40
	Rent - Scout Hut in Memorial Park	-58	-58	-50	
	Income				
110,312	Total Expenditure	127,162	123,867	126,186	- 97
550	Disposal of waste	550	605		= 55
	Miscellaneous			624	62
650	Playgrnd inspections	600	600	391	- 20
7,100	Tree inspection arrangement	4,000	4,000	4,738	73
- 3	Tree Survey and Surgery	1,000	420		1,00
8,671	Supplies and Services Equipment	2,300	2,266	2,932	6
1,800	Contr to Vehicle Renew Fund	2,000	2,000	2,000	:-
3,042	Transport Related Costs Vehicle and Mower Running Costs	2,700	2,700	4,272	1,5
60	Fire Extinguishers	100	70	35	ž.
849	Cleaning Materials	600	700	512	
498	Water Charges	150	150	102	•
1,247	Business Rates	1,300	455	456	- 8
250	Electricity	600	300	372	- 2
12,230	Premises Related Costs Maintenance of Grounds	17,000	18,000	16,983	FI.
87,565	Employees Salary and Wages Recharged	94,262	91,601	92,769	- 1,4
£	4. MEMORIAL PARK, TOWN GARDENS ETC. Expenditure	£	£	£	£
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budge
2022/23 Actual		Original	Revised		Overspend

2022/23		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Actual		Original	Revised		Overspend
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budget
£	5. CEMETERY	£	£	£	£
	Expenditure				
	Employees				
77,470	Salary and Wages Recharged	83,395	81,041	82,074	- 1,32
	Premises Related Costs				
399	Electricity	600	600	415	- 18!
948	Business rates	1,000	973	973	2
810	Refuse Collection/Disposal	800	905	905	10
	Transport Related Costs				
500	Vehicle and Mower Running Costs	550	828	1,333	78
	Supplies and Services				
9,040	Grave-digging	10,000	5,000	4,000	- 6,00
39	Books-Official Register, etc.	300	324	324	2
95	Subscrptions ICCM+Scribe	100	834	834	73
335	Misc. Expenditure		304	306	30
89,636	Total Expenditure	96,745	90,809	91,165	- 5,58
	Income				
	Customer Receipts				
77,364	Burial Fees	- 84,000	40,000	- 43,333	40,66
77,364	Total Income	- 84,000	- 40,000	- 43,333	40,66
12,272	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	12,745	50,809	47,831	35,08

2022/23		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Actual		Original	Revised		Overspend
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budget
£	6. ALLOTMENTS	£	£	£	£
	Expenditure				
	Employees				
11,761	Salary and Wages Recharged	12,662	12,305	12,461	- 201
	Premises Related Costs				
92	Water Charges	300	300	2	- 300
	Supplies and Services				
458	Skip hire and disposal	800	800	650	- 150
5,655	Miscellaneous	0	482	206	206
179	Commission on rent collection	483	371	371	- 112
18,053	Total Expenditure	14,245	14,258	13,688	- 557
	Income				
	Customer Receipts				
4,243	Allotment Rents	- 4,826	- 4,826	- 4,760	66
- 4,243	Total Income	- 4,826	- 4,826	- 4,760	66
13,810	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	9,419	9,432	8,928	- 491

2022/23		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Actual		Original	Revised		Overspend
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budget
£	7. NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURE	£	£	£	£
	Expenditure				
1,985	Localism - legal and property advice	3,000	2,200		- 3,000
1,463	Localism - other				
1,773	Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022				3
957	Riverside-Victorian lamps refurbishment				:
321	Community Centre - replace alarm				9
1,240	Riverside Toilets - install CCTV				12
1,853	Riverside toilets repairs				=2
3,965	Allotments - new gates				; sa
468	Refurb chairs mayor's Parlour				
629	Welcome Back(Post-Covid)				-
	Community Centre - 3 new doors		7,248	7,248	7,24
	Commnty Ctr kitchen (UK prosperity fund)		- 7,000	- 9,517	- 9,51
	Sink hole behind Civic Hall		4,460	4,460	4,46
ĺ	Mem Pk - bandstand safety repairs		3,591	3,591	3,59
	Coronation	500	64	82	- 41
	Civic Hall - RAAC (concrete) survey		1,750	1,750	1,75
	Paddling Pool - new surface		35,000		3 * 3
	Electrical testing at Civic	400	650	400	190
	Email addresses for councillors			2,050	2,05
	Lloyds Meadow - refurbish steps	1,000	1,000		1,00
13,396	Total Expenditure	4,900	48,963	10,064	5,16
	Income				
	Total Income		Balle Valley Co.	every to the	S. S
13,396	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	4,900	48,963	10,064	5,16

2022/23		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Actual		Original	Revised		Overspend
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budget
£	8. STOURPORT CIVIC CENTRE	£	£	£	£
	Expenditure				
650	Legal advice and assistance	1,000	1,000	7	- 993
1,135	Building maintenance (day to day)	1,500	2,800	3,552	2,052
4,865	Telephone/Computers/Broadband	5,000	5,000	4,865	- 135
18,500	WCC Service Charge*	21,000	21,000	21,000	
6,822	Business Rates	7,100	6,013	6,013	- 1,087
5,160	Contributn to reserve (building mtnance)	6,000	6,000	6,000	(2)
35,832	Total Expenditure	41,600	41,813	41,436	- 164
	Income				
6,075	Civic Group - rent of Civic Hall	- 10,000	- 4,500	- 4,500	5,500
558	Electricity income from offices	- 1,000	- 654	- 654	346
27,997	Rent Income from offices/parking	- 26,400	- 26,400	- 27,672	- 1,272
34,630	Total Income	- 37,400	- 31,554	- 32,826	4,574
1,202	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	4,200	10,259	8,611	4,411

$\ensuremath{^{\star}}$ WCC Service Charge covers STC's share of utility, cleaning, building and grounds mtce

2022/23		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Actual		Original	Revised		Overspend
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budget
£	9. STOURPORT RIVERSIDE	£	£	£	£
	Expenditure				
34,628	Paddling pool	35,500	34,500	34,546	- 954
33,311	Toilets	39,000	39,000	35,504	- 3,496
67,939	Total Expenditure	74,500	73,500	70,050	- 4,450
67,939	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	74,500	73,500	70,050	- 4,450

2022/23		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24
Actual		Original	Revised		Overspend
		Budget	Estimate	Actual	v Orig Budget
£	10. STOURPORT COMMUNITY CENTRE	£	£	£	£
7,074	Expenditure	2,100	11,500	12,214	10,114
7,074	Total Expenditure	2,100	11,500	12,214	10,114
- 1,312	Income		14,000	- 13,658	- 13,658
- 1,312	Total Income	721	- 14,000	- 13,658	- 13,658
5,762	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	2,100	- 2,500	- 1,445	- 3,545

333,997 370,320 428,271 379,519 9,199

Stourport-on-Severn Town Council BALANCE SHEET 31/03/2024

(Last) Year Ended		(Current) Year Ended
31 Mar 2023		31 Mar 2024
£	CURRENT ASSETS	£
	Stocks and stores Work in progress	
16,563.00	Debtors (Net of provision for doubtful debts)	3,265.20
9,438.19	Prepayments	9,447.98
8,392.61	VAT Recoverable	6,464.99
	Temporary lendings (investments)	
258,860.62	Cash in hand	257,396.48
293,254.42	TOTAL ASSETS	276,574.65
	CURRENT LIABILITIES	
136,824.14	Creditors	147,696.96
156,430.28	NET ASSETS	128,877.69
	Represented by:	
98,066.63	General fund Balance	73,455.04
	Reserves:	
	Capital	
58,363.65	Earmarked	55,422,65
	Adjustments	
156,430.28		128,877.69

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the council as at 31 Mar 2024

Signed ______.

Responsible Financial Officer

Date 28th May 2024



Stourport-on-Severn Town Council Reserves Balance 2023-2024

Reserve	<u>OpeningBalance</u>	Transfers	<u>Spend</u>	Receipts	CurrentBalance
Earmarked					
Vehicles, mowers, computers ar	11,253.62	3,100.00			14,353.62
Elections	18,000.03	-12,041.00			5,959.03
Civic Centre	29,110.00	6,000.00			35,110.00
Total Earmarked	58,363.65	-2,941.00			55,422.65
TOTAL RESERVE	58,363.65	-2,941.00			55,422.65
GENERAL FUND					73,455.04
TOTAL FUNDS					128,877.69



2023 £	ASSETS AS AT 31st MARCH 2024	2024 £
L	4 LAND	L
100	1. LAND Abberley Avenue Public Open Space (Common Land)	100
1,000	Allotments - Kingsway	1,000
1,000	Allotments - Areley Kings	1,000
1,000		1,000
100	Cemetery, Minster Road Vale Road/Mitton Street Public Gardens	1,000
100		_
_	Lloyds Meadow-t-ferred from Wyre Forest Dist Council(WFDC)	1
1	Land at Foundry Street (transferred from WFDC)	1
	2. BUILDINGS	
1	Civic Hall, Stourport	1
183,520	Stourport Community Centre - Changing Rooms	183,520
1	Stourport Community Ctr-remainder(t-ferred from WFDC)	1
60,210	Town Clock and Clock Tower	60,210
36,850	Memorial Park Bandstand	36,850
10,400	Memorial Park Scout Hut	10,400
11,350	Cemetery Portakabin	11,350
10,400	Cemetery Toilet Block	10,400
	3. CONTENTS	
60,000	Civic Hall, Stourport	60,000
34,570	Stourport Community Centre - Changing Rooms	34,570
15,060	Civic Centre office furniture and office equipment	15,060
7,390	Cemetery office	7,390
	4. VEHICLES	
15,750	General Purpose Van	15,750
3,700	John Deere Mini Tractor	3,700
ŕ		,
	5. COMMUNITY ASSETS	
3,310	Mayor's Robe Chain and Badge	3,310
12,890	Coat of Arms and Silver Casket	12,890
8,580	Display Case, Chest and Contents	8,580
33,930	Bus Shelters and Public Seats	33,930
31,000	Christmas Lights	31,000
19,100	Street Lighting	19,100
34,450	War Memorial Gates & Railings	34,450
85,000	Green Gym and Natural Play Equipt in Memorial Park	85,000
7,000	Marco Polo slide in Memorial Park	7,000
1	Riverside paddling pool (transferred from WFDC)	1
1	Britannia Meadows play area (transferred from WFDC)	1
687,666		687,666

NOTES:

1. The Town Council is sole trustee in respect of two charitable trusts involving freehold land at the Memorial Park, Stourport and Recreation Ground at Areley Kings. They are therefore not included.



STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN TOWN COUNCIL FINAL ACCOUNTS 2023/24 NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICY

These accounts have been prepared on an income and expenditure basis in accordance with accepted accounting practice and present fairly the overall financial position of the Council. Revenue transactions have been accounted for on an accruals basis.

2. LOANS AND LEASES

The Council is debt free and signed, in March, 2014, an intention to lease the first floor of the Civic Centre from Worcestershire County Council. The content of the lease is under discussion between the solicitors of the County and Town Councils.

3. DISCRETIONARY EXPENDITURE UNDER S.137 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Parish Councils can spend up to £8.82 per head of electorate (15,884) each year for the benefit of people on activities or projects not specifically allowed by any other legislation (Up to £140,097). No grants to charitable organisations were paid in the year but will be paid in the new financial year.

4. TOURISM PROMOTION EXPENDITURE UNDER S.144 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1972

The Council spent £6,291 on Christmas Lights in the Town Centre in 2023/24.

5. FUNDS AND RESERVES

The Council's approved working balance is £70,000. The actual balance was £73,455 at the year end.

The Council maintains Reserve Funds to provide for large items of future expenditure. The Final Accounts show year-end balances on reserve funds of £55,423.

6. SUPERANNUATION

The Council contributes to the Worcestershire County Council Superannuation Fund being 19.9% of employees superannuable pay.

7. AUDIT

Internal Audit was carried out by Mr R. Mountford IPFA.

8. TRUST AND CHARITABLE FUNDS

Council is sole trustee in respect of the Memorial Park and Areley Kings Recreation Ground. All related expenditure and income is shown in these accounts and the net expenditure is met by the Council.

9. MEMBERS ALLOWANCES

Council has resolved not to pay allowances to members.

10. INVESTMENTS

During the financial year cash reserves were invested with Wyre Forest District Council.

11. EMPLOYEES

The Council employs 9 employees, 6 of whom are part-time.

12. CAPITAL ACCOUNTING

The Council is not required to comply with capital accounting requirements.

