Town Hall 1, Market Place Romsey SO51 8YZ

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Agenda for the Meeting on Tuesday 3rd January 2023 at 7.30p.m.

- 1. APOLOGIES
- 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS
- 3. MINUTES
 - i To receive the Finance and Resources Committee Meeting Minutes of 8th November 2022
 - ii Matters Arising
- 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
- 5. TOWN HALL INCOME

To receive an update of current and projected Town Hall Income

6. FINANCE REPORT 2022/23

To receive latest Finance Report

7. SALARIES BREAKDOWN SUMMARY FOR 2022/23

To receive latest Salaries Breakdown Report

8. INTERIM AUDIT REPORT

RECOMMENDATION: to note and recommend Interim Audit Report to Full Council

9. FINANCE REPORTS CHECK

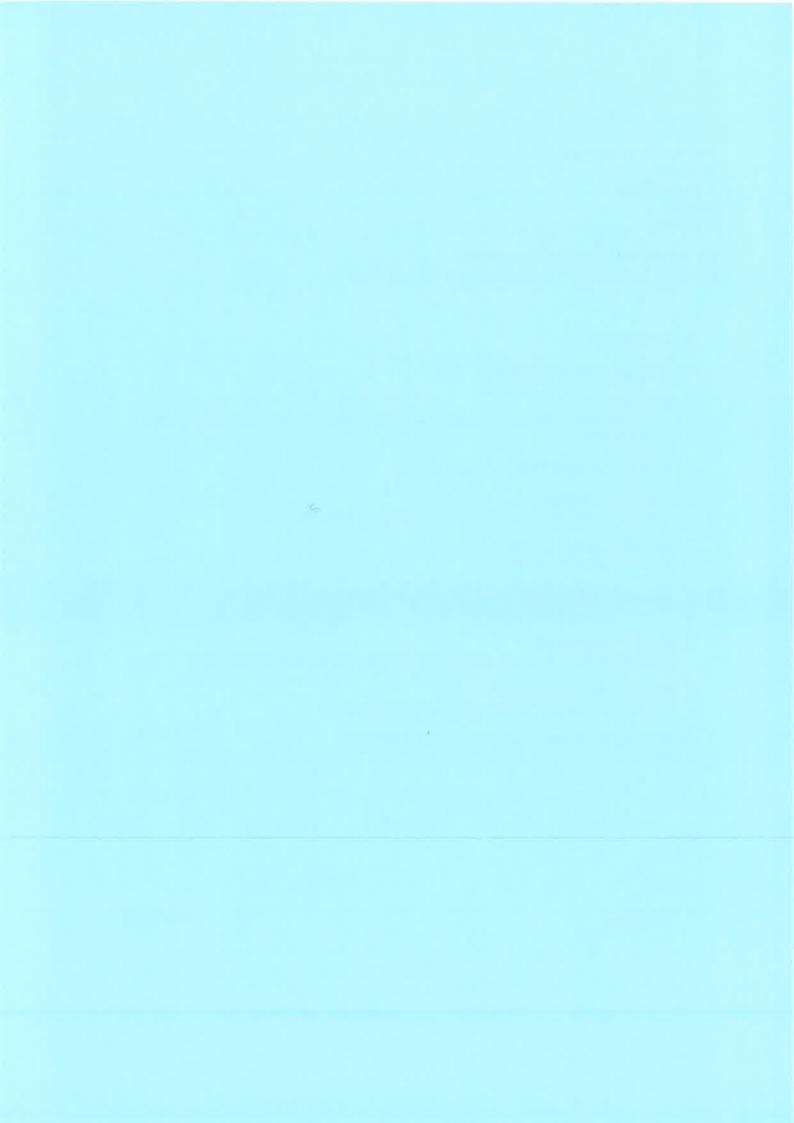
Request for Councillor to intermittently check Finance Reports

10. ROMSEY TOWN COUNCIL/ROMSEY EXTRA MERGER

Status

Chief Officer

Date:011122



MINUTES FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE TUESDAY 8th November 2022

AATTENDANCE:

Α	Councillor D. Baverstock	Р	Councillor N. Gwynne
Р	Councillor J. Cairney	Р	Councillor J. Parker
Р	Councillor J. Critchley(Chair)	Р	Councillor S. Wilkinson
Р	Councillor I. Culley		

In the Chair: Cllr. J. Critchley

Clerk: Judith Giles

Public: 0

Present: Cllr. M. Cooper

1. Apologies

Cllr. D. Baverstock

2. Declarations of Interests

None

3. Minutes

i) To receive the Finance & Resource Committee Meeting Minutes of 6th September 2022

PROPOSED: Councillor S. Wilkinson SECONDED: Councillor I. Culley CARRIED

ii) Matters Arising

None

4. Public Participation

None

5. Town Hall Income

The Chief Officer reported Town Hall bookings for 2022-23 continue to be on the increase. She reported Barclays Bank are hiring a room in the Town Hall 2 days a week as a community hub from 15th December 2022.

6. Finance Report 2020/21

The Chief Officer presented Month 6 to the Committee. There are no areas of concern.

7. Budget 2023-24

RECOMMENDATION: to recommend merged Romsey Town Council/Romsey Extra Parish Council budget for 2023-24 to Romsey Town Council Meeting on 15th November 2022.

RESOLUTION NO. 22/19

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend merged Romsey Town Council/Romsey Extra Parish Council budget for 2023-24 to Romsey Town Council Meeting on 15th November 2022 subject to creating an Earmarked Reserve (EMR) for projects. Carried forward Romsey Extra projects will be added to list for consideration.

PROPOSED: Cllr. N. Gwynne SECONDED: Cllr. J. Parker

CARRIED

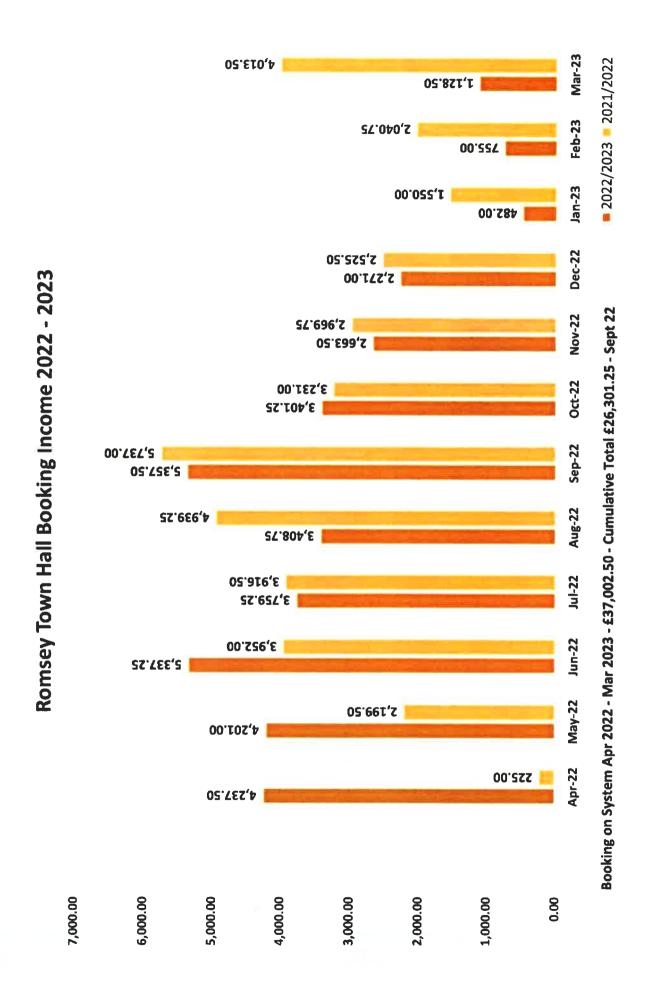
8. Salaries Breakdown Summary for 2020/21

Noted.

9. Romsey Town Council/Romsey Extra Merger

The Chief Officer outlined the status of the Romsey Town Council/Romsey Extra Merger process. A status report on projects was given and it was noted that Highwood Lane footbridge has been suspended







Romsey Town Council Budget Report to 30th November 2022

General Notes:

Attached are the summary income & expenditure report for month 8 to November 2022. This report shows a current year surplus of income over expenditure of £119,054 which includes the 2nd half of the precept which was received on 20th September 2022.

The council has two long term liabilities of a loan with a current balance of £50,810 & £96,910, they are paid in twice yearly instalments and will be fully repaid by 18th May 2035 & 30th June 2046 respectively. The council took out a second loan for town hall lift.

The balance sheet shows that total funds available to the council are £388,168:

This is made up of the following -

Current Year Surplus £119,054
General Reserve Brought Forward £147,213
Other Earmarked Reserves £121,901
Total £388,168

The budget is analysed and phased over the year and the percentage of budget if analysed evenly over the year to date is 66.67% but members are reminded that income & expenditure rarely follows this pattern over the year.

Total expenditure for month 7 was 71.40% of the annual budget.

Please note this report is not designed to alleviate members or the RFO of their responsibility in managing the Town Council finances. It is merely provided as a snapshot of the current financial position and to highlight to members any potential problem areas that have been identified within the accounts.

The budget is set by The Council and it is the member's responsibility in partnership with the RFO to monitor and control the financial position throughout the year. More detailed information is available to Councillors than is provided for here.

Analysis by Cost Centre 101

Month Budget	£10,097
Actual	£11,298
Under/(Over)	-£1.201

Administration

Year to Date Budget	£121,160
Actual	£83,106
% of Budget Used	68.59%

Annual IT support for £14.8k and annual subscription of £1.9k for HALC & NALC was paid in April 2022.

No further concerns.

103	Grants	
No further concerns.		
104	Civic	
No further concerns.		
105	Finance	

Annual insurance cost of £5.3k was incurred in April 2022/23 against its annual budget of £5k.

No further concerns.

107 Market

No further concerns.

Romsey Town Council Budget Report to 30th November 2022

Analysis by Cost Centre (Continued) 110 Town Hall

Month Budget	£15,555
Actual	£22,074
Under/(Over)	-£6,519

Year to Date Budget	£186,662
Actual	£137,492
% of Budget Used	73.66%

1st Loan repayment made in April 2022 & 1st Loan repayment for Lift was made in June 2022.

£16k spent on AV system & Electricals for Townhall of which £10k was funded from EMR Town Hall Major Maintenance

£8.2k and £10.2k spent on AV system & Electricals on August & September 2022 respectively.

£4k spent on stage light installation in Month 8.

No further concerns.

111	Town Hall Bar
No further concerns.	
112	Town Hall Film Shows
No further concerns.	
120	Allotments
No concerns.	
125	Town Centre Management
No further concerns.	
127	Romsey Security
No concerns.	
130	Environmental
No concerns.	
135	Marshalls
No concerns.	
140	Planning
No concerns.	
160	War Horse Fund
No concerns.	
170	Christmas Lights Fund
No concerns.	

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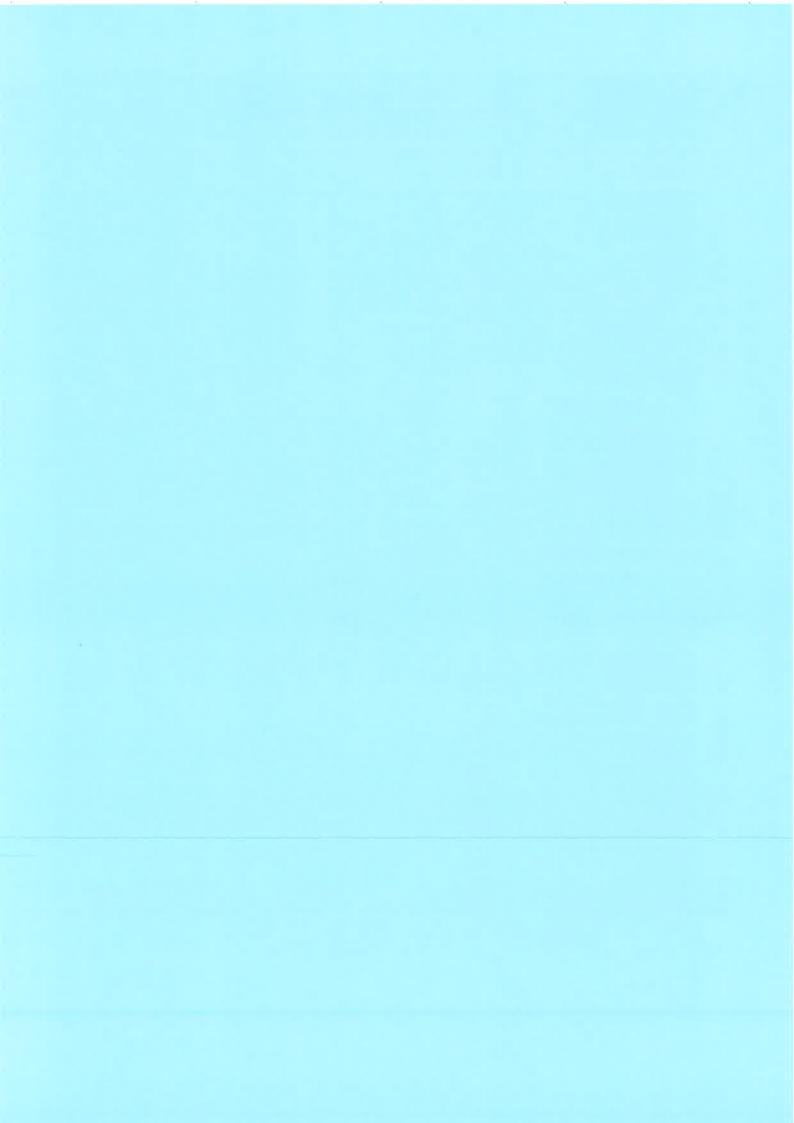
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Detailed Balance Sheet - Excluding Stock Movement Month 8 Date 30/11/2022

					_	
A/c	Description	Actual				
	Current Assets					
100	Trade Debtors	3,478				
103	Prepayments	2,247				
105	VAT	6,848				
120	Bar Stock	1,414				
201	Lloyds Current Account	379,271				
202	Building Managers Imprest A/c	833				
204	TSB Deposit A/c	1,907				
212	Mayors Charity A/c	661				
215	War Horse A/c 35433560	14,516				
230	Bar Float	300				
235	Petty Cash - Allotment	2				
	-					
	Total Current Assets		411,479			
	Current Liabilities					
500	Trade Creditors - CHQ	20,731				
516	Superannuation Due	285				
534	Mayors Charity Control Acct	661				
545	Wilder Romsey	1,169				
561	Booking Deposits	65				
562	Damage Deposits	400				
	Total Current Liabilities	-	23,311			
	Net Current Assets			388,168		
Total	Assets less Current Liabilities		=	388,168		
	Page agented by					
001	Represented by :-	440.55				
301	Current Year Fund	119,054				
310	General Reserve	147,213				
321	EMR Allotment Fund	7,018				
336	EMR Town Hall Major Mainten'ce	58,167				
339	EMR Marshals In Romsey	245				
340	EMR Elections	8,757				
343	EMR Romsey Website	2,812				
345	EMR War Horse Fund	11,328				
349	EMR Grants	2,200				
350	EMR Markets	1,908				
351	EMR Town Centre Management	3,327				
353	EMR Neighbourhood Plan	913				
354	CIL Receipts	9,470				
355	EMR WW1 Event	3,767				
356	EMR Romsey Emergency Plan	2,309				
358	EMR Tourism & Heritage App	9,680				

388,168

Total Equity



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Summary Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/11/2022

Month No: 8

			Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
101	Administration	Income	112	1,169	1,575	406			74.2%
		Expenditure	11,298	83,106	121,160	38,054		38,054	68.6%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(11,185)	(81,938)					
	Grants	Expenditure	0	5,045	6,000	955		955	84.1%
104	Civic	Income	0	30	0	(30)			0.0%
		Expenditure Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	1,721	6,664	8,995	2,331		2,331	74.1%
		i de la companya de	(1,721)	(6,634)					
105	Finance	Income Expenditure	1,133	321,749	320,618 13,300	(1,131) 5,982		5,982	100.4%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	1,590 (457)	7,318	13,300	5,962		5,962	55.0%
				314,431					
	Market	Income	0	4,821	5,000	179			96.4%
110	Town Hall	Income Expenditure	9,581 22,074	50,261 137,492	63,074 186,662	12,813 49,170		49,170	79.7% 73.7%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(12,493)	(87,231)	100,002	49,170		49,170	73.7%
111	Town Hall Bar	Income	342	2,712	1,500	(1,212)			180.8%
		Expenditure	343	2,799	1,950	(849)		(849)	143.5%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(1)	(87)					
112	Town Hall Film	Shows Income	897	6,708	12,250	5,542			54.8%
		Expenditure	823	4,493	8,650	4,157		4,157	51.9%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	74	2,215					
120	Allotments - So	uthampton Rd Income	410	3,200	2,705	(495)			118.3%
		Expenditure	146	3,068	2,705	(363)		(363)	113.4%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	264	132					
125	Town Centre M	anagement Income	0	20,245	4,000	(16,245)			506.1%
		Expenditure	5,773	26,100	27,200	1,100		1,100	96.0%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(5,773)	(5,855)					
130	Environmental	Income	0	10	0	(10)			0.0%
		Expenditure	808	879	4,700	3,821		3,821	18.7%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(808)	(869)					
135	Marshalls	Income	0	110	0	(110)			0.0%
		Expenditure	0	83	400	317		317	20.7%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	0	27					
140	Planning	Expenditure	0	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%
160	War Horse Fund	i Income	0	2	0	(2)			0.0%
		Expenditure	0	2	0	(2)		(2)	0.0%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	0	0					
170	Christmas Light	s Fund Income	1,002	5,002	5,000	(2)			100.0%
		Expenditure	10,193	19,916	33,000	13,084		13,084	60.4%
		Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(9,191)	(14,914)					

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Summary Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/11/2022

Month No: 8

	Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent
Grand Totals:- Income	13,477	416,018	415,722	(296)			100.1%
Expenditure	54,769	296,964	415,722	118,758	0	118,758	71.4%
Net Income over Expenditure	(41,293)	119,054	0	(119,054)			
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(41,293)	119,054					

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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/11/2022

Month No: 8

Cost Centre Report

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMF
101	Administration								
1008	Income - Photocopying	0	16	0	(16)			0.0%	
1070	Income - Planning Clerk	112	1,153	1,575	422			73.2%	
	Administration :- Income	112	1,169	1,575	406			74.2%	-
4001	Salaries	6,688	38,113	61,250	23,137		23,137	62.2%	
4002	Employers N.I	714	3,838	5,650	1,812		1,812	67.9%	
4003	Employers superann	1,097	6,532	9,650	3,118		3,118	67.7%	
4006	Contract Accountancy Costs	0	1,390	7,000	5,610		5,610	19.9%	
4009	Staff Travel	0	0	50	50		50	0.0%	
4013	Website Admin	40	286	350	64		64	81.8%	
4020	Staff Training	0	49	300	251		251	16.3%	
4040	Recruitment Advertisements	0	0	150	150		150	0.0%	
4512	Telephone	119	872	1,600	728		728	54.5%	
4513	Postage	0	619	600	(19)		(19)	103.1%	
4514	Stationery	167	802	850	48		48	94.4%	
4515	Photocopying	227	1,683	2,600	917		917	64.7%	
5012	Council Offices in Town Hall	1,000	8,000	12,000	4,000		4,000	66.7%	
5250	Subscriptions	327	2,811	2,600	(211)		(211)	108.1%	
5260	Outsourced Payroll	68	437	1,000	563		563	43.7%	
5270	IT & Computer Costs	63	16,885	15,510	(1,375)		(1,375)	108.9%	
5272	Accountantcy Fees	789	789	0	(789)		(789)	0.0%	
	Administration :- Indirect Expenditure	11,298	83,106	121,160	38,054	0	38,054	68.6%	
	Net Income over Expenditure	(11,185)	(81,938)	(119,585)	(37,647)				
103	Grants								
5890	Community Grants	0	3,045	4,000	955		955	76.1%	
5893	Community Grant - Bandstand	0	1,000	1,000	0		0	100.0%	
6100	Arts Festival	0	1,000	1,000	0		0	100.0%	
	Grants :- Indirect Expenditure	0	5,045	6,000	955	0	955	84.1%	
	Net Expenditure	0	(5,045)	(6,000)	(955)				
104	Civic								
:	Income - Town Crier	0	30	0	(30)			0.0%	
	Civic :- Income	0	30	0	(30)				
1001	Salaries	0	83	500	417		417	16.6%	
1043	Council Newsletter	0	3,030	2,400	(630)		(630)	126.3%	
5011	Council Use of Town Hall	0	0	2,000	2,000		2,000	0.0%	
	Members training	0	0	400	400		400	0.0%	

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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/11/2022

Month No: 8

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
6550	Meetings Advertisements	0	0	50	50		50	0.0%	
6750	Mayors Allowance	0	144	500	356		356	28.8%	
6760	Town Crier	25	376	450	74		74	83.6%	
6761	Mace Bearer	0	195	195	0		0	100.0%	
6762	Civic Costs	1,696	2,836	2,500	(336)		(336)	113.4%	
	Civic :- Indirect Expenditure	1,721	6,664	8,995	2,331	0	2,331	74.1%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	(1,721)	(6,634)	(8,995)	(2,361)				
105	Finance								
1060	Income - CIL Receipt	1,092	1,092	0	(1,092)			0.0%	
1176	Precept	0	320,568	320,568	0			100.0%	
	Interest Received	40	89	50	(39)			177.2%	
	Finance :- Income	1,133	321,749	320,618	(1,131)			100.4%	0
5011	Council Use of Town Hall	0	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
5251	Insurances	0	5,162	5,000	(162)		(162)	103.2%	
5271	Audit Fees	480	900	1,900	1,000		1,000	47.4%	
5280	Bank Charges	18	163	400	237		237	40.8%	
5290	Legal & Professional Fees	0	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
5400	Elections	0	0	5,000	5,000		5,000	0.0%	
7350	Tfr to Earmarked Reserves	1,092	1,092	0	(1,092)		(1,092)	0.0%	
	Finance :- Indirect Expenditure	1,590	7,318	13,300	5,982	0	5,982	55.0%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	(457)	314,431	307,318	(7,113)				
107	Market								
1030	Income - Market Stalls	0	4,821	5,000	179			96.4%	
	Market :- Income	0	4,821	5,000	179			96.4%	0
	Net Income	0	4,821	5,000	179				
110	Town Hall								
1001	Income - Rental	0	5,000	11,200	6,200			44.6%	
1002	Income - Bookings	8,581	36,949	35,000	(1,949)			105.6%	
1003	Town Council Office Rent	1,000	8,000	12,000	4,000			66.7%	
	Income - Tea/Coffee	0	0	50	50			0.0%	
1015	Income Classics	0	312	624	312			50.0%	
	Income - Cleaning				4.050			0.0%	
1020	Income - Councils own hirings	0	0	4,050	4,050			0.078	
1020 1022		0 0	0 0	4,050 150	150			0.0%	

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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/11/2022

Month No: 8

Main			Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
Mode	4001	Salaries	8,731	46,430	61,550	15,120		15,120	75.4%	
Holiday Cleaning	4002	Employers N.I	884	3,780	5,400	1,620		1,620	70.0%	
4008 Function Attendants & Casuals 1,224 7,748 9,000 1,252 1,252 86,1%	4003	Employers superann	1,372	6,829	9,950	3,121		3,121	68.6%	
4010 Wages - Maintenance 1.054 5.157 7.500 2.343 2.343 68.8% 4020 Staff Training 0 6 60 1.200 1.140 1.140 5.0% 4020 Uniforms 82 129 300 171 171 42.9% 4501 Janitorial 20 523 1.100 577 577 47.5% 4504 Catering Costs 11 4 35 100 65 65 35.5% 4504 Catering Costs 11 4 35 100 65 65 35.5% 4504 Catering Costs 11 4 35 100 65 66 35.5% 4504 Catering Costs 11 4 35 100 65 66 35.5% 4505 Health and Safety 70 70 1.000 930 930 930 7.0% 4510 Rates 2.033 16.268 21.250 4.982 4.982 76.6% 4511 Utilities 2.038 4.398 9.000 4.802 4.602 48.9% 4511 Utilities 2.038 4.398 9.000 4.802 4.602 48.9% 4520 Licenaces 67 532 2.450 1.918 1.918 21.7% 4520 Licenace 16 7 532 2.450 1.918 1.918 21.7% 4520 Licenace 17 5.20 1.0000 1.000 1.0000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.000 1.0000 1.0000 1.0000 1.0000 1.0000 1.0000	4005	Holiday Cleaning	0	469	600	131		131	78.1%	
4020 Staff Training	4008		1,224	7,748	9,000	1,252		1,252	86.1%	
4030 Uniforms	4010		1,054	5,157	7,500	2,343		2,343	68.8%	
4501 Janitorial 20 523 1,100 577 577 47.5% 4504 Catering Costs 14 35 100 65 65 35.5% 4505 Health and Safety 70 70 1,000 830 930 7.0% 4510 Rates 2,033 16,268 21,250 4,882 4,982 75.6% 4511 Utilities 2,038 4,398 9,000 4,602 4,602 49.9% 4520 Licences 67 532 2,450 1,918 1,918 21,7% 4572 Long Term Building Repairs 0 0 20,000 20,000 20,000 0,0% 4751 Maintenance External 0 4 1,500 1,496 1,496 0,2% 4800 Maintenance Internal 93 6,458 10,000 3,542 3,542 64,6% 4806 Firmiture-Equipment Purchased 4,267 38,285 3,500 (34,785) (36,785) 5011 Council Use of Town Hall 0 0 500 500 500 5020 Publicity & Marketing 0 0 2,000 2,000 0,0% 5270 IT & Computer Costs 0 302 500 198 198 60,4% 6014 Hangling baskets/kmas Trees 0 372 700 328 328 53,2% 7155 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 4,952 0 0 10,000 0,0% 7152 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 4,952 0 0 10,000 0,0% 7155 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 4,952 0 0 10,000 0,0% 7155 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 4,952 0 0 10,000 0,0% 7156 Loan Capital + Interest 0 2,572 5,110 2,538 2,538 50,3% 7355 Tir from Earmarked Reserves 0 (10,000) 0 10,000 10,000 0,0% 7156 Loan Capital + Interest 0 2,572 5,110 2,538 2,538 50,3% 7357 Tir from Hall Bar - Income 342 2,712 1,500 (1,212) 180.8%	4020	Staff Training	0	60	1,200	1,140		1,140	5.0%	
4504 Catering Costs 14 35 100 65 65 35.5% 4505 Health and Safety 70 70 1,000 930 930 7.0% 4510 Rates 2,033 16,268 21,250 4,982 4,982 76.6% 4511 Utilities 2,038 4,398 9,000 4,602 4,602 48.9% 4520 Licences 67 532 2,450 1,918 1,918 21.7% 4572 Long Term Building Repairs 0 0 20,000 20,000 20,000 0.0% 4575 Long Term Building Repairs 0 4 1,500 1,496 1,496 1,496 0.2% 4800 Maintenance External 93 6,458 10,000 3,542 3,542 64.6% 4850 Furniture/Equipment Purchased 4,267 38,285 3,500 (34,785) (34,785) 1993,8% 4851 Fixed Cost Maintenance 124 2,120 7,500 5,380 5,380 28.3% 5011 Council Use of Town Hall 0 0 500 500 500 0.0% 5220 Publicity & Marketing 0 0 2,000 2,000 2,000 0.0% 5220 Publicity & Marketing 0 372 700 328 328 53.2% 7150 Loan Capital + Interest 0 4,952 4,952 0 0 100.0% 7152 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 2,572 5,110 2,538 2,538 50.3% 7152 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 2,572 5,110 2,538 2,538 50.3% 7154 Lift Loan Capital + Inderest 0 2,772 1,500 1,000 10,000 0.0% 7152 Lift Loan Capital + Inderest 0 2,772 1,500 1,212 1,500 1,212 1,500 1,000 0.0% Town Hall Bar Indirect Expenditure 185 1,188 750 (438) (438) 158.3% 0 3000 Bar Purchases 156 1,965 450 (1,515) (1,515) 4,367.% 4001 Salanes 156 1,965 450 (1,515) (1,515) 4,367.% 4001 Salanes 156 1,965 450 (1,515) (1,515) 4,367.% 4304 Damaged Stock 0 15 0 (15) (15) 0.0% 4305 Stocktaking 0 0 250 250 250 0.0% 4806 Furniture/Equipment Purchased 0 (382) 500 882 882 (76.4%) 5282 Card Reader Charges 2 13 0 (13) (13) 0.0%				129		171		171	42.9%	
4505 Health and Safety	4501		20	523	1,100	577		577	47.5%	
4510 Rates				35				65		
4511 Utilities 2,038 4,398 9,000 4,602 4,602 48,9% 4520 Licences 67 532 2,450 1,918 1,918 21,7% 4572 Long Term Building Repairs 0 0 20,000 20,000 20,000 0.0% 4751 Maintenance External 0 4 1,500 1,496 1,486 0.2% 4800 Maintenance Internal 93 6,458 10,000 3,542 3,542 64.6% 4850 Furniture/Equipment Purchased 4,267 38,285 3,500 (34,785) (34,785) 1093.8% 4851 Fixed Cost Maintenance 124 2,120 7,500 5,380 5,380 28.3% 5011 Council Use of Town Hall 0 0 500 500 500 0.0% 5220 Publicity & Marketing 0 0 2,000 2,000 2,000 0.0% 6014 Hanging baskets\tankis\tankismarres 0 372	4505	Health and Safety	70	70	1,000	930		930	7.0%	
4520 Licences 67 532 2,450 1,918 1,918 21,7% 4572 Long Term Building Repairs 0 0 20,000 20,000 20,000 0,0% 4751 Maintenance External 0 4, 1,500 1,496 1,496 0,2% 4850 Furniture/Equipment Purchased 4,267 38,285 3,500 (34,785) (34,785) 1093,8% 4851 Fixed Cost Maintenance 1124 2,120 7,500 5,380 5,380 28,3% 5011 Council Use of Town Hall 0 0 5 500 500 500 0,0% 5220 Publicity & Marketing 0 0 0 2,000 2,000 0,00% 5270 IT & Computer Costs 0 302 500 198 198 60,4% 6014 Hanging baskets\times Trees 0 372 700 328 328 53,2% 7150 Loan Capital + Interest 0 4,952 4,952 0 0 100,0% 7152 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 2,572 5,110 2,538 2,538 50,3% 7355 Tr. from Earmarked Reserves 0 (10,000) 0 10,000 10,000 0,0% Town Hall Bar : Indirect Expenditure 22,074 137,492 186,662 49,170 0 49,170 73,7% 0 Net Income over Expenditure 12,433 (87,231) 111 Town Hall Bar : Direct Expenditure 185 1,188 750 (438) (438) 158,3% 0 Town Hall Bar : Direct Expenditure 185 1,188 750 (438) 0 (438) 158,3% 0 4001 Salaries 156 1,965 450 (155) (1,515) 436,7% 4304 Damaged Stock 0 15 0 362 250 250 0,0% 4850 Furniture/Equipment Purchased 0 (382) 500 882 882 (76,4%) 5282 Card Reader Charges 2 1 3 0 (13) (13) 0,0% Town Hall Bar : Indirect Expenditure 2 158 1,611 1,200 (411) 0 (411) 134,3% 0										
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A751 Maintenance External 0										
4800 Maintenance Internal 93 6,458 10,000 3,542 3,542 64.6% 4850 Furniture/Equipment Purchased 4,267 38,285 3,500 (34,785) (34,785) 1093.8% 4851 Fixed Cost Maintenance 124 2,120 7,500 5,380 5,380 28.3% 5011 Council Use of Town Hall 0 0 500 500 500 0,0% 5220 Publicity & Marketing 0 0 2,000 2,000 2,000 2,000 2,000 5270 IT & Computer Costs 0 302 500 198 198 60.4% 6014 Hanging baskets\(\text{Xmas Trees} \) 0 372 700 328 328 53.2% 7150 Loan Capital + Interest 0 4,952 4,952 0 0 100.0% 7152 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 2,572 5,110 2,538 2,538 50.3% 7355 Tir from Earmarked Reserves 0 (10,000) 0 10,000 10,000 0.0% Town Hall :- Indirect Expenditure 22,074 137,492 186,662 49,170 0 49,170 73.7% 0 Net Income over Expenditure (12,493) (87,231) (123,588) (36,357) 111 Town Hall Bar 100000000000000000000000000000000000					20,000			20,000		
4850 Furniture/Equipment Purchased 4.267 38.285 3.500 (34.785) (34.785) 1093.8% 4851 Fixed Cost Maintenance 124 2,120 7,500 5,380 5,380 28.3% 5011 Council Use of Town Hall 0 0 0 500 500 500 0.0% 5220 Publicity & Marketing 0 0 0 2,000 2,000 2,000 0.0% 5270 IT & Computer Costs 0 302 500 198 198 60.4% 6014 Hanging baskets\tXmas Trees 0 372 700 328 328 53.2% 7150 Loan Capital + Interest 0 4,952 4,952 0 0 100.0% 7152 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 2,572 5,110 2,538 2,538 50.3% 7355 Tir from Earmarked Reserves 0 (10,000) 0 10,000 10,000 0.0% Town Hall :- Indirect Expenditure 22,074 137,492 186,662 49,170 0 49,170 73.7% 0 Net Income over Expenditure (12,493) (87,231) (123,588) (36,357) 111 Town Hall Bar 1013 Income - Bar Sales 342 2,712 1,500 (1,212) 180.8% Town Hall Bar :- Income 342 2,712 1,500 (1,212) 180.8% Town Hall Bar :- Direct Expenditure 185 1,188 750 (438) (438) 158.3% 0 4001 Salanes 156 1,965 450 (1,515) (1,515) 436.7% 4304 Damaged Stock 0 15 0 (15 0,0% 4305 Stocktaking 0 0 0 250 250 250 0.0% 4850 Furniture/Equipment Purchased 0 (382) 500 882 882 (76.4%) 5282 Card Reader Charges 2 13 0 (13) (13) 0.0% Town Hall Bar :- Indirect Expenditure 158 1,611 1,200 (411) 0 (411) 134.3% 0					· ·					
4851 Fixed Cost Maintenance 124 2,120 7,500 5,380 5,380 28.3%										
5011 Council Use of Town Hall 0 0 500 500 500 0.0% 5220 Publicity & Marketing 0 0 2,000 2,000 2,000 0.0% 5270 IT & Computer Costs 0 302 500 198 198 60.4% 6014 Hanging basketsVMas Trees 0 372 700 328 328 53.2% 7150 Loan Capital + Interest 0 4,952 4,952 0 0 100.0% 7152 Lift Loan Capital + Interest 0 2,572 5,110 2,538 2,538 50.3% 7355 Tift from Earmarked Reserves 0 (10,000) 0 10,000 10,000 0.0% Net Income ever Expenditure (12,493) (87,231) (123,588) (36,357) 110 10,000 10,000 0.0% Town Hall Bar 10 1,500 (1,212) 180.8% 0 Town Hall Bar :- Income 342 2,712 1,500 (1,212) 180.8% 0										

Romsey Town Council

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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/11/2022

Month No: 8

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
112	Town Hall Film Shows								
1051	Income - Film Refreshments	40	98	250	152			39.2%	
1053	Income - Film Tickets	857	6,610	12,000	5,390			55.1%	
	Town Hall Film Shows :- Income	897	6,708	12,250	5,542			54.8%	0
4008	Function Attendants & Casuals	156	1,534	2,500	966		966	61.4%	
4850	Furniture/Equipment Purchased	191	191	0	(191)		(191)	0.0%	
4950	Film Hire/Purchases	440	2,448	5,900	3,452		3,452	41.5%	
4951	Film Refreshment Costs	2	36	250	214		214	14.2%	
5282	Card Reader Charges	34	284	0	(284)		(284)	0.0%	
Tov	wn Hall Film Shows :- Indirect Expenditure	823	4,493	8,650	4,157	0	4,157	51.9%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	74	2,215	3,600	1,385				
400	-								
120	Allotments - Southampton Rd								
1000	Income - General	410	3,200	2,705	(495)			118.3%	
	Allotments - Southampton Rd :- Income	410	3,200	2,705	(495)			118.3%	0
4509	Water Rates	146	789	750	(39)		(39)	105.2%	
4514	Stationery	0	40	0	(40)		(40)	0.0%	
5250	Subscriptions	0	55	55	0		0	100.0%	
5300	Rent - Broadlands	0	1,100	1,100	0		0	100.0%	
5309	Maintenance Equipment	0	789	150	(639)		(639)	526.1%	
5311	Hedge Cutting	0	0	220	220		220	0.0%	
5312	Pest Control	0	0	250	250		250	0.0%	
5315	Sundries Allotments	0	295	180	(115)		(115)	163.9%	
Allotments	s - Southampton Rd :- Indirect Expenditure	146	3,068	2,705	(363)	0	(363)	113.4%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	264	132	0	(132)				
125	Town Centre Management								
1071	Income - Salary Recharge (TV)	0	9,114	0	(9,114)			0.0%	
	Income - Salary Recharge (RE)	0	7,011	0	(7,011)			0.0%	
1109	Income - ShopAppy	0	4,120	0	(4,120)			0.0%	
1405	Income - Town Centre Grant	0	0	4,000	4,000			0.0%	
	Town Centre Management :- Income	0	20,245	4,000	(16,245)			506.1%	0
4001	Salaries	4,700	17,196	20,500	3,304		3,304	83.9%	
4002	Employers N.I	490	1,758	1,450	(308)		(308)	121.3%	
4003	Employers superann	922	3,487	0	(3,487)		(3,487)	0.0%	
4500	Town Centre Management	0	45	1,000	955		955	4.5%	
4512	Telephone	10	166	250	84		84	66.5%	

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Romsey Town Council

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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/11/2022

Month No: 8

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
5405	Town Centre Events	0	0	4,000	4,000		4,000	0.0%	
7350	Tfr to Earmarked Reserves	0	4,120	0	(4,120)		(4,120)	0.0%	
7355	Tfr from Earmarked Reserves	(350)	(673)	0	673		673	0.0%	
Town (Centre Management :- Indirect Expenditure	5,773	26,100	27,200	1,100	0	1,100	96.0%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	(5,773)	(5,855)	(23,200)	(17,345)				
130	Environmental								
1031	Income - Electric Bollards	0	10	0	(10)			0.0%	
	Environmental :- Income	0	10	0	(10)				0
4511	Utilities	42	101	450	349		349	22.5%	
6009	Land at the Star Maintenance	120	120	350	230		230	34.3%	
6011	Town Seats	0	6,873	400	(6,473)		(6,473)	1718.1%	
	Street Lights	646	646	2,000	1,354		1,354	32.3%	
6015	Signs	0	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
6022	Planting for CornMarket	0	0	400	400		400	0.0%	
6023	Drinking Water Fountain	0	12	200	188		188	5.8%	
6025	Bollard/St Furn Mtce	0	0	400	400		400	0.0%	
7355	Tfr from Earmarked Reserves	0	(6,873)	0	6,873		6,873	0.0%	
	Environmental :- Indirect Expenditure	808	879	4,700	3,821	0	3,821	18.7%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	(808)	(869)	(4,700)	(3,831)				
135	Marshalls								
1103	Income - Marshalls Donations	0	110	0	(110)			0.0%	
	Marshalls :- Income	0	110	0	(110)				- 0
5103	Marshalls In Romsey	0	0	400	400		400	0.0%	
6019	Road Closure	0	83	0	(83)		(83)	0.0%	
	Marshalls :- Indirect Expenditure	0	83	400	317	0	317	20.7%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	0	27	(400)	(427)				
	Planning								
140		-	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%	
<u>140</u> 5011	Council Use of Town Hall	0	0	1,000					
	Council Use of Town Hall Planning :- Indirect Expenditure	0	0	1,000	1,000	0	1,000	0.0%	

Romsey Town Council

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Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 30/11/2022

Month No: 8

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMF
160	War Horse Fund								
1190	Interest Received	0	2	0	(2)			0.0%	
	War Horse Fund :- Income	0	2	0	(2)				-
4855	War Horse Fund Expenses	0	160	160	0		0	100.0%	
7350	Tfr to Earmarked Reserves	0	2	0	(2)		(2)	0.0%	
7355	Tfr from Earmarked Reserves	0	(160)	(160)	0		0	100.0%	
	War Horse Fund :- Indirect Expenditure	0	2	0	(2)	0	(2)		
	Net Income over Expenditure	0	0	0	0				
170	Christmas Lights Fund								
1009	Income - Grants	1,000	2,000	2,000	0			100.0%	
1011	Income - Donations	0	3,000	3,000	0			100.0%	
1190	Interest Received	2	2	0	(2)			0.0%	
	Christmas Lights Fund :- Income	1,002	5,002	5,000	(2)			100.0%	·
6764	Christmas in Romsey	10,191	18,438	29,000	10,562		10,562	63.6%	
6765	Christmas Light Refurb	0	1,477	4,000	2,524		2,524	36.9%	
7350	Tfr to Earmarked Reserves	2	2	0	(2)		(2)	0.0%	
Chr	ristmas Lights Fund :- Indirect Expenditure	10,193	19,916	33,000	13,084	0	13,084	60.4%	-
	Net Income over Expenditure	(9,191)	(14,914)	(28,000)	(13,086)				
	Grand Totals:- Income	13,477	416,018	415,722	(296)			100.1%	
	Expenditure	54,769	296,964	415,722	118,758	0	118,758	71.4%	
	Net Income over Expenditure	(41,293)	119,054	0	(119,054)				
	Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	(41,293)	119,054						

Time: 14:59

Current Account

List of Payments made between 01/11/2022 and 30/11/2022

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid Authorized Ref	Transaction Detail
01/11/2022		-		•
	SCIW Revisit Ltd	DD01	15.98	7323-Spring clamp set 6pcs
01/11/2022	SGW Payroll Ltd	DD02	77.22	7364-Payroll processing M7
	Amazon	DC01	26.99	7386-Battery
02/11/2022	Amazon	DC02	26.99	7385-Battery
03/11/2022	Lloyds TSB Deposit A/c	500273	497.50	
04/11/2022	Southern Cross Consulting Ltd	DD03	48.44	7355-VoIP Call charge Oct 22
07/11/2022	Preservation Equipment Ltd	DC03	14.34	7457-Map & banner bags
07/11/2022	British Telecommunications plc	DD01	40.66	7354-Monthly phone charge
07/11/2022	Scottish Water business Stream	DD02	64.00	P/Ledger Electronic Payment
08/11/2022	Town Hall Imprest A/c	Tfr	500.00	
09/11/2022	Romsey Home Hardware	DC04	2.99	7455-Caulk
09/11/2022	Complete Security	DC05	6.99	7453-Graphite powder
10/11/2022	Air Improve Limited	BACS01	2.00	7316-Air conditioning service
10/11/2022	Buchannan Events Limited	BACS02	2,004.25	P/Ledger Electronic Payment
10/11/2022	Classicfire	BACS03	325.10	7358-Extinguisher service
10/11/2022	Anglico Workplace Technologies	BACS04	180.34	7352-Printer charge
10/11/2022	DCK Accounting Solutions Ltd	BACS05	327.90	7367-Accounts support
10/11/2022	Hampshire County Council	BACS06	170.76	7362-Misc Janitorial items
10/11/2022	T Hamer	BACS07	195.00	7366-Town Crier - Honorarium
10/11/2022	HM Revenue & Customs	BACS08	3,423.16	7396-HMRC PAYE/NI Due
10/11/2022	Hampshire Pension Fund	BACS09	2,847.96	7397-Pension Due Oct 2022
10/11/2022	St John Ambulance	BACS10	230.40	7363-1st aid cover -Xmas
10/11/2022	The Studio	BACS11	126.00	7353-Design-newsletter
10/11/2022	Romsey Home Hardware	DC06	3.19	7454-Caulk white
11/11/2022	Rocon Contractors Ltd	BACS12	1,992.60	7359-Bench hardstanding instal
14/11/2022	Waitrose	DC	307.45	Waitrose-Civic catering costs
14/11/2022	Amazon	DC08	23.99	7456-Extendable feather
15/11/2022	Test Valley Borough Council	Std Ord	2,033.00	Test Valley-Rates 22/23
16/11/2022	Octopus Energy Limited	DD03	912.72	7424-Utilities charge Aug 2022
17/11/2022	SJT Services (Southampton) Ltd	BACS13	990.00	7407-PA system for remembrance
18/11/2022	Public Works Loan Board	DD04	2,475.96	7357-PW504143 Loan Repayment
18/11/2022	SJT Services (Southampton) Ltd	BACS14	9,393.60	7434-Xmas light install
21/11/2022	Town Hall Imprest A/c	Tfr	500.00	
21/11/2022	The Poppy Appeal	001405	23.00	7409-Standard wreath-Remembran
22/11/2022	Countess Mountbatt	BACS	250.00	Air cleaning unit-Mountbatten
23/11/2022	Town Hall Imprest A/c	Tfr	500.00	
23/11/2022	ACE Liftaway Limited	DD05	76.80	7356-Monthly waste collection
23/11/2022	The Events Industry Forum Ltd	DC07	30.00	7459-Purple guide subscription
25/11/2022	Staff salaries - Nov 2022	BACS	3,558.26	Staff salaries - Nov 2022
25/11/2022	Staff salaries - Nov 2022	BACS	12,210.66	Staff salaries - Nov 2022
25/11/2022	Everflow Limited	DD06	263.82	7420-Water charge 14Nov-13Jan
28/11/2022	Service charge payable	CHRG	23.00	Service charge payable
28/11/2022	Service charge payable	CHRG	-23.00	Service charge payable
28/11/2022	Service charge payable	CHRG	7.00	Service charge payable
29/11/2022	Staff Salaries - Nov 2022	BACS	1,599.62	Staff Salaries - Nov 2022
29/11/2022	Fort Cumberland & Portsouth Mi	BACS16	1,599.02	7440-Armistice Day-11Nov22
30/11/2022	Utility Warehouse Limited	DD07	58.10	7417-Phone & broadband
			33.10	

Date: 12/12/2022

Romsey Town Council

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Time: 14:59

Current Account

List of Payments made between 01/11/2022 and 30/11/2022

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid Authorized Ref	Transaction Detail
30/11/2022	Hampshire Caledonian Pipe Band	BACS17	240.00	7439-Remembrance-Performance
30/11/2022	Complete Security	DD08	27.96	7470-Mortice keys-Precut
30/11/2022	John Lewis Plc	DC09	229.00	7466-Sony Blu-Ray/DVD player

Total Payments

49,011.70

Variance Annual Total	40,463	2,752	131	966	2,343	¥ï	51,031	% Used	68% 68%	%89		63%	75%	20%	%69	78%	%98 %69		/2%	437%			437%	61%	048	044%	%171 %0	102%	420/	0		17%	
Annual Bud	144,250	19,600	009	2.500	7,500	*))	195,950	24	5.650	9,650	9	76,550	61.550	5.400	9,950	009	9,000		94,000	450			450	2,500	00	1 450	1,430	21,950		999	(4	200	195,950
<u>Actual</u> <u>To</u> <u>Date</u>	103,787	16,848	469	1.534	5,157	1 8	144,919	0 4 6	3,838	6,532	*	48,483	46.430	3.780	6,829	469	7,748		(0,413	1,965	*	a s	1,965	1,534	17 106	1 75B	3,487	22,441	G	3 .!	- 33	83	
Actual March 12	* 1	8	¥ (*	100	*					13						8					(*										
Actual February	40 4	100	1	9	10/6	e.						24						1					14									(4)	
Actual January 10	X(-)	i (14)	€ ()	(-)	[(0)]	68	((• <u>1</u>)					10013						10					Đ.									0.0	
Actual December 9	8)		¥ 8	9	٠	è	•					3						Ó					()					3					
Actual November E	20,274	3,392	1 224	156	1,055	C:	28,189	8	713	1,098	80	8,499	8.731	885	1,372	30	1,224		13,207	156	¥	Si .	156	156	600	400	922	6,111)	6 3	(9)	534	
Actual October 7	13,499	2,238	. Ogo +	87	989	E	18,728	4 704	480	785		5,966	5.404	441	840	30	1,080 586	7100	8,35	168	*	2	168	87	9000	247	613	4,156	y	9 - 9			
Actual September 6	12,694	2,143	122	156	586	Ô	17,641	967 7	439	778)	5,653	5.364	355	752	122	829 586		8,008	Ò	ě	*	(4)	156	6	247	613	3.824)		J#	•	
Actual August S	13,037	2,143	200	200	286	é	17,977	4 402	448	780	¥	5,720	5.388	354	750	•	892 586		0/8'/	263	*	*	263	200	9	24.7	517 613	3,824	0	6 19	- 34		
Actual July 4	13,126	2,290	122	207	586	е	18,441	4.436	439	777	×	5,652	5.420	416	787	122	938 586		8,269	376	£	2.	376	207	200	247	317 726	3,937	0	K 13	())		
Actual June 3	10,705	1,546	- 920	288	586	Š	14,955	436	440	778	•	5,654	5,364	434	768	•	956 586		8,108	263	9	3	263	288	o u	3		559	G	3	ē	83	
Actual Mey 2	10,280	1,614	734	219	586	Ē	14,277	1 427	439	119	ě	5,687	5.478	408	803	•	731	0	8,006	365	•	ě	365	219	70	(9	ě.		į į			
Actual April	10,172	1,482	225	221	586	•li	14,711	L a . L	440	725	*:	5,652	5.281	487	757	225	1,098 586		8,434	374	*	es	374	221	ç	g T	s es :	30		5 0	- 24		
TOTAL SALARIES COSTS	Salaries	Employers Superann	Holiday Cleaning	Film Show Attendants	Wages - Maintenance	Fixed Pension Contribution	TOTAL	Administration Salaries	Employers N.I	Employers superann	Fixed Pension Contribution	TOTAL	Town Hall Salaries 4001 Salaries	Employers N.I	Employers superann	Overtime Cleaning	Function Attendants & Casuals Wages - Maintenance		OIAL	Town Hall Bar Salaries 4001 Salaries	Employers N.I	Employers superann	TOTAL	Town Hall Film Shows 4008 Function Attendants & Casuals	Town Centre Manager	Calaries	Employers N.I Employers superann	TOTAL	alaries Colonia	Calaries	Employers superann	TOTAL	
TOTAL	4001	4003	4005	4008	4010	4011		Adminis	4002	4003	4011		Town H	4002	4003	4005	4008	2		Town H 4001	4002	4003		Town H	Town	- 00	4002		Civic Salaries	1004	4003		

73.96%	%299
date	date
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udget t	pe
% of p	et should
Total	of budget
	10 %



Internal Audit Report 2022-23 (Interim)

Chris Hall

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For & on behalf of Auditing Solutions Ltd

Background

Statute requires all town and parish councils to arrange for an independent internal audit examination of their accounting records and systems of internal control and for the conclusions to be reported each year in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR).

This report sets out the work undertaken in relation to our initial review for 2022-23, undertaken at our offices and during a visit to the Town Hall on 17 November 2022. We would like to thank the Chief Officer and her team for their assistance and hospitality.

Internal Audit Approach

The objective of this interim review is to provide an appropriate level of assurance to the Council on their governance, procedures and financial control in advance of the main review at the financial year end. Any recommendations, therefore, should be seen as an 'early warning' of issues that need to be addressed in order to provide full and supportable assurances in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2022-23.

In commencing our review for the year, we have again had regard to the materiality of transactions and their susceptibility to potential misrecording or misrepresentation in the year-end Statement of Accounts / AGAR. Our programme of cover is designed to afford appropriate assurance that the Council has appropriate and robust financial systems in place that operate in a manner to ensure effective probity of transactions and to afford a reasonable probability of identifying any material errors or possible abuse of the Council's own and the national statutory regulatory framework. The programme is also designed to facilitate our completion of the 'Internal Audit Report' as part of the Council's AGAR process, which requires independent assurance over a number of internal control objectives.

Overall Conclusion

Details of the work undertaken on the Council's accounting and other records during this interim review are set out in the following detailed report. We are pleased to offer the Council a reasonable level of assurance on its continuing governance and financial practices, and we see no reason at this time why the Council should not achieve an unqualified report on its 2022-23 accounts at the year end.

We have not seen the need to make any formal recommendations at this time, although we have made a number of observations for continuing improvement throughout this report which we would invite the Council to consider.

While we are aware of, and have commented on, the proposed merger with Romsey Extra Parish Council on 1 April 2023 as a Material Event, given the level of Council consideration of this matter and our discussions with the Chief Officer we can see no reason at this time why this should present any governance or internal financial control problems for the Town Council.

Detailed Report

Maintenance of Accounting Records & Bank Reconciliations

Our objective here is to ensure that the accounting records are being maintained accurately and that no anomalous entries appear in cashbooks or financial ledgers, noting that the Council continues to use the Rialtas Omega accounting package and is supported by the services of DCK Beavers to maintain the financial records.

The Council maintains a range of bank accounts with both Lloyds and TSB Banks, all of which are separately maintained in the Omega system.

We have:

- ➤ Agreed the 2022-23 Opening Trial Balance in Omega to the closing 2021-22 figures in the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR);
- > Ensured that the ledger remains "in balance" at the time of audit;
- Ensured that the cost and expenditure coding structure remain appropriate for purpose;
- ➤ Checked the Omega bank reconciliations as at 30 September 2022 for all accounts to the supporting bank statements.

We note that bank reconciliations on all accounts are undertaken on a monthly basis. These are then submitted as part of a Finance Report to the Finance & Resources (F&R) Committee for scrutiny. We have commented before on the desirability of implementing a fully independent check by a Councillor who is not a bank signatory, to meet the requirement of Financial Regulation (FR) 2.2. We have discussed the advantages of such a check, in providing an additional level of assurance to both the Council and its staff with the Chief Officer.

Conclusions

There are no specific issues we wish to raise at this time, other than the above observation on the increase in assurance that would be derived from the proper application of the FR2.2 requirement.

Review of Corporate Governance

Our objective here is to ensure that the Council has a robust series of corporate governance policies, procedures and documentation in place; that Council and Committee meetings are conducted in accordance with the adopted Standing Orders (SOs) and that, as far as we are able to ascertain, no actions of a potentially unlawful nature have been or are being considered for implementation.

We note that the Standing Orders (SOs) and Financial Regulations (FRs) were last revised and updated in September 2021. This is normally undertaken on a biennial basis, or when a new version is issued by NALC. However, we understand that these are next likely to be reviewed in September 2023 as a consequence of the intended merger with Romsey Extra Parish Council (REPC) on 1 April 2023.

We note that the Council re-affirmed its eligibility to exercise the General Power of Competence at the Annual Meeting of the Full Town Council in May 2022.

We have commenced our review of the Minutes of the Town Council and Standing Committee meetings for the year to date to establish whether any issues exist that may have an adverse effect, through litigation or other causes, on the Council's current or future financial stability. We note the ongoing discussions concerning the proposed merger with REPC on 1 April 2023.

We note that the Exercise of Public Rights with regard to the 2021-22 Accounts was properly undertaken in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations. We have discussed with the Chief Officer the recent appointment of a new External Auditor (BDO LLP) for 2022-23 and beyond, which we do not believe will have any significant impact on the Council given the record of unqualified external audit reports in previous years.

We note that there is a clear reference on the Council's website to the Transparency Code 2015. We have discussed with the Chief Officer the need to keep such information up to date, with specific reference to the quarterly list of all payments made over £500, and publishing internal audit reports in full.

Conclusion

There are no issues arising in this area of our review warranting formal comment or recommendation at this time, other than the need to keep Transparency Code information up to date.

Review of Expenditure

Our aim here is to ensure that: -

- > Council resources are released in accordance with the Council's approved procedures and budgets;
- ➤ Payments are supported by suitable documentation, either in the form of an original trade invoice or other appropriate form of document confirming the payment as due and/or an acknowledgement of receipt, where no other form of invoice is available;
- > All discounts due on goods and services supplied are identified and appropriate action taken to secure the discount:
- > The correct expense codes have been applied to invoices when processed; and
- > VAT has been appropriately identified and coded to the control account for periodic recovery.

We note the continuation of sound internal control in this area, with detailed scrutiny being maintained by the Finance and Resources Committee.

We have test-checked a range of significant transactions over the period April to September 2022, with no anomalies found.

We have also examined detail of VAT payments / reclaims processed during the year to date by reference to the accounting software control account with no issues arising.

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Conclusion

There are no issues arising in this area of our review warranting formal comment or recommendation at this time.

Assessment and Management of Risk

Our aim here is to ensure that the Council has put in place appropriate arrangements to identify all potential areas of risk of both a financial and health and safety nature, whilst also ensuring that appropriate arrangements exist to monitor and manage those risks to minimise the opportunity for their coming to fruition. We have: -

- Examined the Council's current insurance policy, renewed from 1 April 2022 as part of a 3-year Long Term Agreement with Royal Sun Alliance via WPS brokers. Appropriate levels of cover remain in place: Employers Liability at £10M, Public & Products Liability at £15M, and other covers, including property, which we consider appropriate for the Council's current requirements. We note that the current 3-year Long Term Agreement ends on 31 March 2023, which will allow the Council to re-establish its insurance cover taking into account its new responsibilities arising from the merger with REPC;
- Noted that the Council's Risk Register, which is maintained using the Risk Wizard software package, was reviewed and approved at the Council meeting in May 2022, which satisfies the requirement in Financial Regulations for a minimum annual review. However we feel that a more frequent (say 6-monthly) review would assist the Council in its strategic thinking, with particular regard to the upcoming merger with REPC.

Conclusion

There are no issues arising in this area of our review warranting formal comment or recommendation at this time, other than our observation about more frequent consideration by Council of its risk profile.

Budgetary Control & Reserves

Our objective here is to ensure that the Council has a robust procedure in place for identifying and approving its future budgetary requirements and the level of precept to be drawn down from the Borough Council: also, that an effective reporting and monitoring process is in place. We also aim to ensure that the Council retains appropriate funds in Earmarked Reserves to finance its ongoing spending plans, whilst retaining appropriate sums as a General reserve to cover any unplanned expenditure that might arise.

As the process for determining a budget and Precept for 2023-24 has yet to be concluded, we will review this area during our 2022-23 final review, with particular regard to the effects of the proposed merger with REPC.

Conclusion

There are no issues arising in this area of our review warranting formal comment or recommendation at this time.

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We shall undertake further work in this important area as part of our 2022-23 final review, ensuring that the 2023-24 Budget setting and Precept determination process has been completed appropriately and that the Council has formally recorded the Precept in the Minutes. At that time we shall also examine the year-end outturn report and level of retained reserves.

Review of Income

The Council receives income, in addition to its Precept, from Town Hall lettings and other services such as Markets and Allotments.

We have undertaken a sample check of income transactions between original invoices for payment, Omega records and bank statements, with no issues arising.

It is noted that Town Hall hire rates were reviewed by the Building & Town Committee at its August 2022 meeting, which is in accordance with FR9.3.

Conclusion

There are no issues arising in this area of our review warranting formal comment or recommendation at this time.

Petty Cash Account

While the Council does not maintain a petty cash account for the usual purpose of making small purchases, there are two similar accounts maintained for other purposes: a £300 Bar Float, and an £85 petty cash account held by the Allotment Association.

We note that periodic reconciliations of the bar float is undertaken by the Chief Officer and her team. We will undertake a physical check on this account as part of our year-end review.

With regard to the Allotment account we note that, at the time of audit, this is with the Chief Officer pending the appointment of a new Treasurer by the Allotment Association. We have agreed with the Chief Officer that this account should be reconciled before handover and, as previously recommended, a member of staff should periodically (and particularly at the year-end) check and agree the balance held to Council records, as these are Public Funds.

Conclusion

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There are no issues arising in this area of our review warranting formal comment or recommendation at this time, other than our observation about the Allotment petty cash account which we have made before.

Review of Staff Salaries

In examining the Council's payroll function, we aim to confirm that salary payments are in line with the Council approved pay rates and that extant legislation is being appropriately observed as regards adherence to the requirements of HMRC legislation in relation to the deduction and payment over of income tax and NI contributions, together with pension contributions.

We have test-checked the payroll for September 2022, agreeing detail of the basic salary payments to each employee. We have also checked the accuracy of the tax, NI and pension deductions by reference to the relevant tax and NI tables and percentage bandings applying to staff contributing to the Local Government Pension scheme, and payments to the relevant bodies (HMRC and the Hampshire Pension Fund) with no issues arising.

Conclusion

There are no issues arising in this area of our review warranting formal comment or recommendation at this time.

Fixed Asset Registers

We note the significant improvements in this area undertaken during 2021-22. In light of that we have not undertaken any substantive work in this area at this time, but will review procedures and the resulting valuation in the 2022-23 AGAR as part of our year-end review.

Conclusion

There are no issues arising in this area of our review warranting formal comment or recommendation at this time.

Investments and Loans

The Council currently holds no investments other than its accounts with High Street banks. The Council has an approved Investments Strategy, meeting the requirements of JPAG, which was last reviewed in January 2022. We have discussed with the Chief Officer the possible need for expanding this Strategy to allow for long-term investments, in light of the transfer of balances expected after the merger with REPC, generating an optimum level of interest earnings from Council funds while minimising risk.

We have verified the loan repayment instalments to PWLB (2 loans) to date this year as part of our expenditure review.

Conclusion

There are no issues arising in this area of our review warranting formal comment or recommendation at this time.

Response

No recommendations made

Recommendation