

Launton Parish Council
Statement of Variances 2025 / 2026

Bank Reconciliation Statement as at 31 March 2026		
2024/25		2025/26
£34,104.74	Co-operative Bank Community Directplus Account (Current)	£36,706.77
£2,320.84	Co-operative Bank Business Select Instant Access Account	£12,395.73
£64,182.71	Co-operative Bank 35 Day Account	£85,528.67
£3,780.46	Lloyds Bank Community Account (Parish Hall)	£5,102.57
£104,388.75	Total	£139,733.74
£0.00	Less unrepresented cheques	£0.00
£0.00	Plus uncleared payments (Plotters Insurance Contribution cheque misplaced)	£10.00
£0.00	Plus Short term investments	£0.00
£104,388.75	Total	£139,743.74

Reserves		
2024/25		2025/26
£9,750.00	3 months' running costs - further increased to reach 3-month level	£12,875.00
£5,651.78	Sherwood Close maintenance (s106)	£5,651.78
£3,572.00	Glades open space maintenance	£3,572.00
£20,000.00	Parish Hall Contingency - increased for maintenance and project costs	£35,000.00
£4,375.00	Asset replacement fund (street furniture / noticeboards / IT equipment) - increased due to greater replacement need	£5,725.00
£2,526.00	Road Safety - added £250 unspent 2024/25 budget	£2,776.00
£1,600.00	Election expenses - increased to raise level before 2028 elections	£1,900.00
£300.00	Insurance excess	£300.00
£200.00	External Audit Contingency	£200.00
£1,400.00	Clerk sickness / overtime contingency - slight increase	£1,500.00
£3,500.00	General Contingency funds	£3,500.00
£605.00	Defibrillator Contingency - increased to allow for future replacement	£1,105.00
£4,000.00	Bus shelter contingency - increased due to rising costs	£4,500.00
£5,000.00	Trees contingency - increased due to rising costs	£5,600.00
£1,000.00	Fete contingency	£1,000.00
£2,000.00	Professional Fees - increased due to ramping-up of Parish Hall project	£3,000.00
£65,479.78	Total	£88,204.78

General Power of Competence / LGA (1972) S137 - General Grants		
2024/25		2025/26
£10.81	Allowance per elector	£11.10
1173	Number of electors	1152
£12,680.13	Total amount available	£12,787.20
	Spent	
£165.00	Launton Over 60s group	£165.00
£200.00	Clean Slate	£0.00
£100.00	Volunteer Driver Service	£100.00
£41.67	Royal British Legion for lamppost poppies	£0.00
£25.40	Launton Poppy Cascade	£0.00

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£100.00	Hope After Harm	£0.00
£0.00	Launton Plotters	£200.00
£0.00	Xmas Tree Lights Project	£250.00
£0.00	Citizens Advice West Northants and Cherwell	£100.00
£0.00	Fire Fighters Charity	£200.00
£632.07	Total Spent	£1,015.00
£12,048.06	Total available remaining	£11,772.20

Box 2 (+) Annual Precept		
2024/25		2025/26
£51,592.00	Annual Precept	£51,592.00

Box 3 (+) Total Other Receipts		
2024/25		2025/26
£1,216.28	Grass Cutting Grant	£1,216.28
£10.00	Plotters Insurance Contribution - cheque misplaced and not banked in time	£0.00
£15.00	Admin Costs - reduced external use of data projector, accepting £1,000 payment from EWR on behalf of allotment tenants	£1,005.00
£60.00	Training refund - no cancelled course this year	£0.00
£50,000.00	Parish Hall Grant Funding - £20,000 grant from National Lottery Community Fund 'Awards for All' for solar PV on new roof	£20,000.00
£0.00	Parish Hall S106 Funding - £10,851.76 funding awarded by Cherwell District Council for roof replacment	£10,851.76
£6,187.21	Parish Hall Lettings - reduced number of bookings during roof replacement	£5,523.87
£1,984.96	VAT Refund - no reclaim made since loss of permanent Clerk	£0.00
£803.40	Savings Account Interest - higher balance in 35-day account	£1,420.85
£60,276.85	Total	£40,017.76

Box 4 (-) Staff Costs		
2024/25		2025/26
£7,845.13	Only 4 months' salary for new Clerk (at higher hourly rate than previous Clerk) before resignation; most of year unpaid Acting Clerk	£3,773.97

Box 5	No Loans	
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Box 6 (-) All other payments		
2024/25		2025/26
£0.00	Trees/Landscaping - dead tree removal	£330.00
£1,185.00	Urban grass cutting - increased costs with new contract	£2,480.00
£250.00	Rural verge cutting - contractor unavailable, unable to replace in time	£0.00
£1,132.56	Dog bin emptying - slight increase	£1,211.21
£0.00	Dog and litter bins - purchased and fitted new dog bin, moved another dog bin	£460.62
£0.00	Road safety - same as last year	£0.00
£0.00	Noticeboards - same as last year	£0.00
£2,965.00	Village upkeep - slight increase in upkeep tasks done	£3,155.00
£34,167.00	Parish Hall Project - remainder of roof replacement (mostly done in 2024/25) plus early costs for next stage: 40% of roof replacement contract: £20,830 Additional roof replacement costs: £550 Advertisement for building contractors: £194.04	£21,574.04
£300.00	Parish Hall 'Rent' - increase as specified in Agreement for Lease / Lease	£1,000.00
£5,811.47	Parish Hall Utilities - reduced electricity usage and better contract prices	£3,796.89
£69.50	Parish Hall Security / Fire - slight increase	£99.00
£0.00	Parish Hall Caretaker - both 2024/25 and 2025/26 paid in 2025/26	£3,000.00
£33.54	Parish Hall Sundry materials - purchased flower planters	£206.64
£875.00	Parish Hall Maintenance / Servicing - no electrical condition report (-£480), otherwise similar to previous year	£353.75
£0.00	Parish Hall Contingencies - diagnose/fix water leak	£106.00
£1,072.72	Insurance - reduction in premium	£875.00
£410.00	Audit - external audit cost increased by £210	£620.00
£632.07	Grants: General - two one-off £200 donations compared to last year	£1,015.00
£668.88	Subscriptions - no SLCC subscription (-£143.79) due to no permanent Clerk; OALC not paid in 2024/25 year (-£282.09); otherwise similar to last year	£253.00
£4.75	Bank Charge - a full year of Lloyds monthly charges	£58.76
£2,040.00	Village Newsletter - same as last year	£2,040.00
£682.68	Training - fewer training courses attended	£200.00
£424.65	Admin Costs and Mileage - Mobile phone increase (+£21.60) Payment from EWR paid onwards to allotment tenants (+£1,000 - see matching Admin Costs income above) Cost of self-employed locum clerk from February (+£945) Newspaper advert (+£387) Clerk mileage increase (+£52.79) (4 months of Clerk living 45 mins away) No new minutes book (-£173) No clerk admin expenses (-£111.12) (unpaid Acting Clerk for much of year)	£2,546.92
£182.00	Clerk Home Working Allowance - unpaid Acting Clerk for much of year	£100.80
£213.98	IT Costs and Meeting Costs - slight increase due to increasing costs	£276.84
£109.99	Website hosting - same as last year	£109.99
£0.00	Defibrillator - replacement pads and battery needed this year	£273.00
£35.00	Information Commissioner Fee - increased from last year	£47.00
£0.00	Election costs - same as last year	£0.00
£8,149.19	VAT Paid - less expenditure that incurred VAT this year (Parish Hall utilities and roof replacement)	£6,301.34
£61,414.98	Total	£52,490.80

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Box 9 Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets		
2024/25		2025/26
	Added: Dog Bin x 1 (£293.12) Removed: n/a	
£34,291.10	The value of the Fixed Assets stands at	£34,584.22

Gill Peacock

Gill Peacock
Locum Clerk and RFO to Launton Parish Council