



Bradwell Parish Council Chairman's Report



Bradwell Parish Council has a strong history of understanding the vibe and feelings of the local community, and what decisions need to be made in respect of this. A good example is the direction it took from the beginning of 2021 with a cautious approach maintained and the decision to not increase the council precept for 2021/2022.

Now that we have finally returned to a new sense of normal post-pandemic, it is important now that the council takes a good look at what is not available to the local community but should be, and also what is available but could be improved or made best value for resident's money. This is why Bradwell Parish Council is considering a pro-active strategy for the next four years, with discussions to take place on a potential formal Parish or Neighbourhood Plan.

As many may know, Bradwell Parish Council made the decision to not hold football matches on Green Lane playing field anymore and remove the pitch and goals. This was a very hard decision, but one that was needed to be taken. The council felt it was the right thing to do as:

- The cost of upkeeping an FA approved football pitch was considerable, yet most local residents were not seeing or receiving any benefit from this.
- The Council wanted to provide something which could be of use for the whole of the community, as a environmental greenspace and a placemark for Bradwell, an area to assist with the community's wellbeing but also an amenity to allow further community integration.
- Bradwell already has a large provision of football pitches on Mill Lane playing field.

The council have already started consultation with residents through the Bradwellian magazine, on what they would like to see Green Lane playing field used for. We have received a lot of correspondence on this. Though nothing specific as of yet has reached a high level of consensus, there has been not much opposition on it not being a football pitch.

Several small projects have now been completed, such as the concrete bases and new picnic tables at Mill Lane playing field and the brand new zip-line on Green Lane play park for children. Further projects which the Council are working on include:

- Further rubbish bins around Bradwell. An extra four have already been purchased and their locations approved, with two going in the North of Bradwell and two in the South. The Council will be considering further bins in the next budget.
- A youth club for children and adolescents to have something to do in the evenings. We are currently in discussion with YMCA who are very keen to assist us in setting this up. Councillors are visiting certain venues where a YMCA club is already in use to get a feel of what is offered and how it is run. A decision on this will then be made very soon.
- A potential Community Café at the Leo Cole's Pavilion, to be tied into plans for Green Lane playing field.

None of this will be done smoothly or efficiently without the Council having pro-active links with the Bradwell Borough Councillors and County Councillors, or our Member of Parliament. One aim of Bradwell Parish Council is to strengthen these connections for the benefit of residents, and work together when needed.

Working together also includes the local community centres, who play a vital role in Bradwell.

The Council still supports the Old School Village Centre with a grant, as it can see the value the centre has in the community and the great work it does with events and user groups. Mill Lane Community Centre is still continuing

Bradwell Parish Council

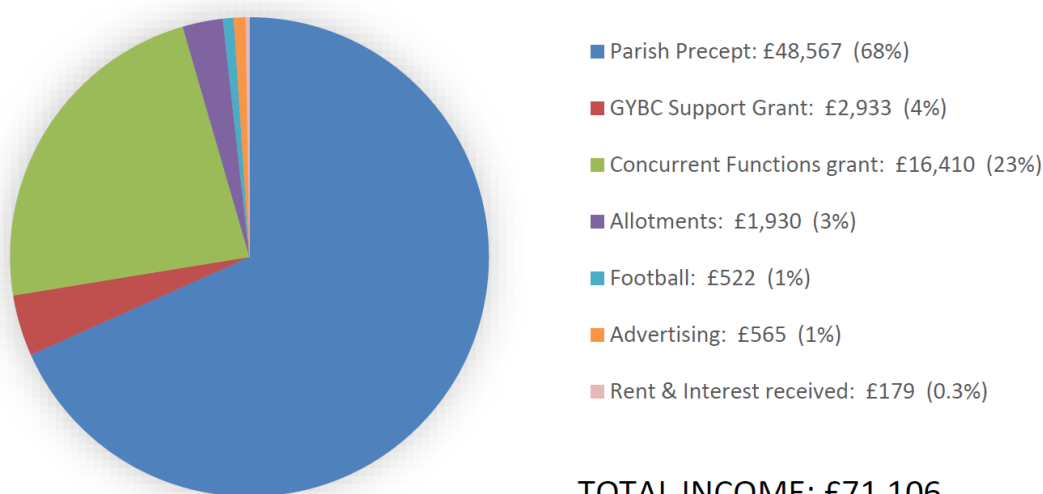


in providing the same level of great service, and it has done for many years now. Working with both of these organisations, plus many more such as St Nicholas Church, the Council aim to be a true grass-roots community champion in community cohesion, forward strategy, services and support.

If evidence is needed on what can be done by working together, you only have to look at the events schedule for Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee. Through working with all the local stakeholders in Bradwell, and forming a working group, we have managed to put together a fantastic four-day event spread across the Parish. We also now have our own flagpole and Union Jack at the Parish Council office which will be brought in in-line with the occasion.

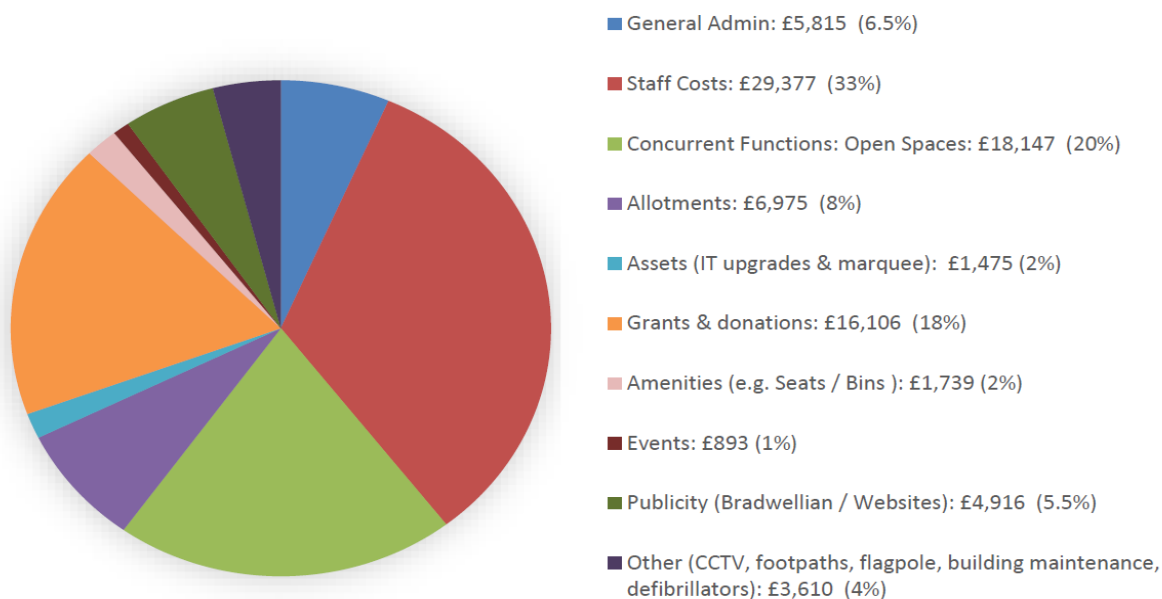
Bradwell Parish Council has made changes to the budget and intends in future to look at all expenditure so that the people of Bradwell feel they are getting value for their money.

Summary of Income 2021-22



TOTAL INCOME: £71,106

Summary of Expenditure 2021-22



TOTAL EXPENDITURE: £89,053

Bradwell Parish Council



Although last year there was £17.9k more expenditure than income received, this additional spending was carefully planned and budgeted for. The details of the additional spend are:

- £5,560 asbestos removal: budgeted from unrestricted reserves
- £5,100 community COVID restart grants: budgeted from restricted reserves
- £8,235 Old School Community centre grant: budgeted from restricted reserves

This report for 2022 gives an outline of what the aims and ambitions of Bradwell Parish Council are and how we feel is the best way to achieve them. It also shows that the Council realises how important it is to both provide the essential services needed and plan for what that may look like well into the future.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Candon'.

Cllr Daniel Candon
Chairman
Bradwell Parish Council