

South Hinksey Parish Council

<https://southhinksey-pc.gov.uk>

Explanation of significant variations between 2020-21 and 2021-22

Box 6: All other payments

2020-21: £15,370

2021-22: £19,337

This represented an increase of £3,967 or 26% and was the net outcome of a number of changes.

Increases in Payments

- a) The Council had undertaken to repay the County Council the rest of the cost of implementing the 30mph speed limit on Hinksey Hill by way of five annual payments of £3,000. But the Council's bank failed to make a payment in 2020-21 and, when it rectified the mistake, it meant two £3,000 payments were made in 2021-22.
- b) The Council had been passing its woodland income to the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) for managing its community woodland. When BBOWT decided not to continue, the Council had to employ a contractor to carry out grass cutting and other maintenance at a cost of £1,500.
- c) The Council spent £850 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 in 2021-22 compared with £370 in 2020-21. This increase of £480 related to additional work carried out on the former General Elliott pub car park, an eyesore in the centre of the village.

These three increases totalled £7,604.

Decreases in Payments

- a) The project to lay out new plots in the burial ground progressed much less in 2021-22 than expected, leading to a reduction in spending on the project compared with 2020-21 of £1,845.
- b) The Council spent £670 less on VAT in 2021-22 than in 2020-21 reflecting the lack of progress on the burial ground project.
- c) The Council spent £976 in 2020-21 on a new website and a gov.uk domain name. By contrast, annual fees in 2021-22 totalled only £344. This was a reduction in spending on the website of £632.
- d) The Council spent a total of £608 less on grass cutting and burial ground operations in 2021-22 than in 2020-21 when the Council paid £895 for a new oak noticeboard for the burial ground.

These four reductions totalled £3,755.

Geoffrey Ferres
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