

Tunbridge Wells Commons Conservators

Finance Report for the meeting on 13th July 2023

The internal audit of last year's accounts has been completed and the necessary documents placed on the website, the external audit has yet to be scheduled, but must be completed by 30th September.

In this report I present the financial accounts for the quarter to 30th June 2023 and comments thereon.

Financial Accounts for the Quarter to 30th June 2023

Tunbridge Wells Commons Conservators					
Income & Expenditure Statement Estimate					
	Actual	Budget		Actual	Prior
	Period ending	Period ending		Period ending	Year
	31/06/2023	31/06/2023	Variance	31/06/2022	Variance
	£	£	£	£	£
Income					
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Precept	99,026.00	99,026.00	0.00	87,945.00	11,081.00
Planning agreement income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest	219.28	150.00	69.28	4.13	215.15
Other	1,025.00	0.00	1,025.00	0.00	1,025.00
Total Income	100,270.28	99,176.00	1,094.28	87,949.13	12,321.15
Expenditure					
Salaries and expenses					
Salaries, NI, pension, parking and payroll	14,212.67	14,314.65	101.98	18,480.30	4,267.63
Uniform and storage	600.00	1,500.00	900.00	600.00	0.00
Insurances	540.00	600.00	60.00	540.00	0.00
Audit - internal and external	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	0.00
Other	733.41	1,415.00	681.59	1,001.35	267.94
	16,086.08	17,829.65	1,743.57	20,621.65	4,535.57
Maintenance of Commons etc.					
Short grass - grasscutting contract	2,933.34	4,107.60	1,174.26	4,074.60	1,141.26
Grass and cleared areas	47.93	7,500.00	7,452.07	5,366.00	5,318.07
Trees including annual survey	14,348.00	16,000.00	1,652.00	4,580.00	-9,768.00
Ditches & drainage	0.00	500.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
Paths and Tracks	0.00	500.00	500.00	875.00	875.00
Litter control	6,747.32	7,351.05	603.73	7,556.62	809.30
Furniture	228.01	750.00	521.99	750.00	521.99
Barriers	0.00	750.00	750.00	1,105.00	1,105.00
Depreciation of Ranger's Tools	189.18	186.08	-3.10	0.00	-189.18
Other	60.98	8,375.00	8,314.02	1,856.25	1,795.27
	24,554.76	46,019.73	21,464.97	26,163.47	1,608.71
Contingency		1,125.00	1,125.00		0.00
Total expenditure	40,640.84	64,974.38	24,333.54	46,785.12	6,144.28
Net income/expense	59,629.44	34,201.62	25,427.82	41,164.01	18,465.43

As you will have read in the Ranger's report his main actions have remained with trees in mind, while keeping other matters in mind, there has been little financial activity. As he mentions the costs have been kept down, in large part, because he continues to take over some of the tasks that have previously been undertaken by contractors.

On the revenue side the money agreed to be received from the planning in Eridge Road of £50k has not been received. We have however received £1,025 from The Friends as a contribution to the cost of the Ranger's tools, which was not budgeted.

On 30th June 2023, the Conservators had £142,000 in cash at bank of which £141,000 was on deposit. This is £24,000 more than this time last year.

Comparisons to Budget

Income was on budget with an increase in bank interest due to deposit rates rising, plus the £1,025 from The Friends mentioned above.

Admin Expenses

Salaries costs remain at budget, but we have yet to receive the quarterly invoice from TWBC to confirm the actual amount.

All other Admin expenses are [below](#) budget.

Maintenance of the Commons

I have made accruals of £9,500 for invoices not yet received and a few other small amounts.

- **Short Grass Cutting** Contract – as we have had 3 cuts rather than 4 we have a [positive](#) variance to budget on 30th June of £1,000.
- **Grass and cleared areas** – with the changes proposed by the Ranger there has been no major activity leaving us with a [positive](#) variance to budget on 30th June of £7,500
- **Trees** – as before most of the extra cost has been because of Ash Die Back, we spent £12,000 this quarter, leaving us £1,600 [under](#) budget.
- **Ditches & Drainage and Paths & Tracks** – the Ranger has not used contractors on these matter in this quarter leaving the budget of £1,000 untouched.
- **Litter Control** – main contracts continue to be within budget and there have been fewer extras like fly tipping etc, which is likely to leave us [below](#) budget on 30th June by £600.
- **Furniture** – Again because of a more proactive approach by the new Ranger, we are £500 [under](#) budget.
- **Barriers** – As mentioned in the Ranger's report, there has been no expenditure this quarter leaving the £750 budget unused.
- **Other** – We had budgeted £7,200 in this quarter for making repairs to the steps at 11 & 12 London Road, but this has been put off to September by a contractor who quoted £3,720 leaving us [under](#) budget by £8,300.

We are therefore currently showing that these Maintenance of the Commons expenditures are £21,000 [under](#) budget and expenditure in total is £25,000 [under](#) budget.

Draft Balance Sheet on 30th June 2023

Tunbridge Wells Commons Conservators		
Balance sheet as at	31/06/2023	
	31/06/2023	31/03/2023
	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Ranger machinery	3,013.52	3,140.70
Current assets		
Debtors and prepayments	1,080.00	1,620.00
Accrued income	-	20.00
Total	1,080.00	1,640.00
Cash at bank	141,945.08	75,884.67
Total Assets	146,038.60	80,665.37
Current liabilities		
Creditors	100.00	100.00
Accruals and deferred income	34,163.01	28,419.22
Total	34,263.01	28,519.22
Net current assets	111,775.59	52,146.15
Reserves		
General account	101,924.32	52,146.15
Planning contribution from Union House	9,851.27	-
	-	-
	-	-
	111,775.59	52,146.15

Alan Leale-Green FCCA

Treasurer

4th July 2023