



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2021—2022

Published May 2022



### PARISH COUNCIL FACTFILE Members of the Council 2021/2022

**Chairman:** Mrs B Thomas  
**Vice Chairman:** Mr J Paxton

Mrs G Gardner  
Mr J Selley  
Mr A Channon  
Mr J Roberts  
Mr N Day  
Mr S Laycock  
Mrs V Jones (*resigned June 2021*)  
Mrs A Vale (*Co-opted June 2021*)  
Mrs A Miller (*Co-opted June 2021*)  
Miss G Widdowfield (*Co-opted February 2022*)

#### Staff

Carolyn Callen Clerk to the Council  
Suzanne Cowie Assistant Clerk to the Council  
John Fitzgerald Full-Time Ground/Facilities Maintenance  
Ian Nicholls Part-Time Groundsman  
Karen Small Norman Road Playground Keyholder  
Selina McConville Norman Road Playground Keyholder

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**Website:** [www.bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk)  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1563405067289955>  
**Blog:** <https://seekingcouncil.wordpress.com>

**2021/2022 Precept: £176,900**

## **Report from the Parish Council Chairman**

Our aim for the Annual Report is to sum up what the Parish Council have achieved in the last year. What problems have been faced and what your money has been used for.

The Parish Council were saddened to hear of Gorgeous Georges' recent passing. It was heartening to see the village rally round to raise funds and support George and his family over the past year since his devastating diagnosis. Our sincere condolences go out to his family, and friends.

I would like to express thanks to the group of volunteers who regularly litter-pick around the Village and to the 'Blooming Barton' group for their efforts in ensuring the Village is kept clean and looking beautiful for everyone to enjoy.

We greatly appreciate and support Barton Christmas Lights, who continue to put on a great display around the Village in December and hopefully, the Switch-on event can go ahead this coming year with the lifting of the Pandemic restrictions.

### **Parish Council Membership**

At present we have 11 serving Councillors. In line with local Government legislation, the Parish Council will continue to promote co-option as a valid means to join your Parish Council, pending elections due to be held in 2023. We currently have two vacancies to fill, so if you have the time and desire to join the Council, please call into the Parish Office on Windsor Parade or alternatively contact the Clerk at [theparishclerk@bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk](mailto:theparishclerk@bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk). All new Councillors are provided with induction training to help them understand their role in representing the Community they serve.

### **Public Participation and Communications**

We welcome members of the public to our monthly meetings. It is important that we encourage public participation in matters that affect you the parishioners of Barton-le-Clay. A strong Parish Council and a more integrated community can only be accomplished if the community have a desire to participate in debate and question the role of your Parish Council.

Our monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of every month (except August) at the Village Hall and Committee meetings are held on other Mondays. The agendas for each meeting are publicised on our website, noticeboards and via Social Media.

### **What have we done in 2021/22 financial year?**

The reports contained within the body of this report will provide a good overview of what the Parish Council has achieved during the previous financial year. It is not my intention to precis these reports but simply ask you to read further and gather a better understanding of what the Parish Council does. The Action Plan which details activities and projects for the coming year is available to view on our website: <https://bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/Policies/BPC-Action-Plan-2022-23.pdf>

Plans are well underway to celebrate HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June 2022. These will include a Beacon Lighting on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and the Big Jubilee Picnic Lunch on 5<sup>th</sup> June, both to be held in Arnold Recreation Ground. Please look out for details of how you can get involved and enjoy these events over the coming weeks. In the Autumn, we hope to plant trees as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative.

We continue to work with the local Community Policing team and Central Bedfordshire Council's Community Safety Officers to tackle anti-social behaviour in Barton-le-Clay. Over the last six months, one of the key priorities for the Community Police has been to provide support in this area. The local StreetWatch group of volunteers also play an important role in deterring poor behaviour to help ensure the safety of residents in the Village and we are grateful to them.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Parish Council staff for their invaluable support to the Council. They show professionalism and conscientiousness as they provide 'the face' of the Parish Council on a daily basis. In particular, they have enabled parishioners and contractors to continue to access the Parish Office, ensuring their safety whilst the Covid-19 Pandemic continued.

Finally, I would like to place on record thanks to my fellow Parish Councillors for all the time and effort they devote to their duties. Parish Councillors do not receive any remuneration for their services. I do believe that every Councillor is concerned for the well-being of the parish and has the best interest of the village at heart.

**Barbara Thomas**  
**Chairman of Barton-le-Clay Parish Council**  
April 2022

## **Planning Committee Report**

As a statutory consultee, the Planning Committee, on behalf of the Parish Council, have met regularly throughout the year, to consider all planning applications submitted for the Barton-le-Clay Parish. We have commented where we agree inappropriate or insufficient plans have been provided and object when considered necessary. We are particularly concerned regarding any proposed loss of garage or parking spaces, which will contribute to already difficult parking situations on many roads throughout the Village. We are also concerned by the loss of bungalows and two-bedroom properties, reducing more affordable or accessible housing for the future needs of residents.

The Planning Committee continue to highlight any potential breaches of planning conditions, which are reported to the Central Bedfordshire Council Enforcement Officers to investigate. Depending on permitted development rules and the nature of the breach, a decision will then be made. It is disappointing that sometimes it is too late to prevent loss of a unique feature of the Village.

The Central Bedfordshire Council Local Plan was finally adopted in July 2021, following delays to the process due to the Pandemic restrictions. The Parish Council's main concerns are regarding the level of housing proposed and the impact on the Green Belt and the ANOB which surround the Village. Further information is available from Central Bedfordshire Council website: [https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/153/central\\_bedfordshire\\_local\\_plan\\_2015\\_to\\_2035](https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/153/central_bedfordshire_local_plan_2015_to_2035)

As part of the land highlighted in the Local Plan, Taylor Wimpey Developers are proposing to build up to 500 new homes and a primary school on the land to the East of Barton-le-Clay, on Higham Gobion Road. They have applied for outline planning permission. The Parish Council have considered the impact this will have on the Village and what additional facilities the Village will need to mitigate the development plans. This will be discussed with the Central Bedfordshire Planners as the project progresses.

A request for outline planning was submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council last May in respect of building up to 3850 new homes and facilities to form a new 'Greenwoods' town, between Wrest Park and Barton-le-Clay, east of the A6. The Parish Council worked with other Parish Councils, local Ward Councillors, local organisations and residents from across the surrounding villages impacted by the potential development, to voice their concerns regarding this large, speculative development. The Parish Council also engaged a Planning Consultant to help it formulate our objection to the project. This application was subsequently withdrawn by the developers but a new proposal is expected to be submitted during 2022.

## **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee Report**

Following initial work undertaken in 2011-2015, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee was relaunched in January. The Committee is made up of local volunteers and parish councillors to work to produce a Neighbourhood Plan for the Village. This will comprise of a set of planning policies, determined and adopted by local people, to help us to shape the future of Our Village and surrounding area and put us in a much more powerful position legally, to ensure any developments meet our needs and are not just foisted on us.

Initial work is underway, with an independent Housing Needs Survey sent out to all residents for completion, a newsletter produced and a consultation event held in the Village in March. A Green Infrastructure survey has been requisitioned, to be drawn up by The Greensands Trust in consultation with local residents.

Further details on the Neighbourhood Plan are available on our website using the following link:

<https://bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>



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## **Horticultural Show Sub-Committee Report**

Sadly the 2021 Horticultural Show was not able to go ahead due to the Pandemic however, preparations for the 2022 Show are underway. The 2022 Show will be held on 10th September in the Village Hall. You can pick up a Show Schedule from the Parish Council Office, Library or on our website [www.bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bartonleclay-pc.gov.uk).

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## **Leisure Committee Report**

The Leisure Committee is responsible for the supply and maintenance of the Arnold Recreation Ground, Norman Road Play Area and the Allotment site.

We were pleased to report that the annual RoSPA safety inspection, carried out in May 2021, highlighted very few issues with no major faults identified.

In November 2021, and following an online consultation, an outdoor concrete table tennis table was installed in Arnold Recreation Ground. This project was funded from Central Beds Council Section 106 money, designated to provide outdoor sport provision for the Village.

The Allotment site offers 91 plots of varying sizes. The Allotments remain a popular asset with all plots let to tenants. During the past year, we have cleared historic debris from plots resulting in two lorry loads of debris being collected and disposed of. More recently, the central track has been levelled and surfacing applied to improve access for plot holders. Following complaints of unauthorised parking on the site, signage has now been installed. One project which has been delayed is the replanting of the hedgerow. Following extensive hedge cutting last year, we had planned to replant the thinning areas. However our grant application to the Woodland Trust was not successful due to high demand. We hope to bring this project forward in the Autumn.

Anti-social behaviour and acts of vandalism have sadly continued in our green spaces. In the past year, damage has been caused to benches, and the hip-hop and zip-wire seats were vandalised beyond repair, requiring replacement. In recent weeks, the new table tennis table has been vandalised. These incidents have been reported to the Police and Central Bedfordshire Council. The Police agreed to make patrols of the Recreation Ground and other problem areas their priority from October 2021.

In addition to the routine litter picking undertaken by the Parish Council's Groundsman, we are grateful for the support from Barton Rotary Club, whose members carry out litter picks on the Groundsman's non-working days. Our green spaces are important, please help us to keep them a pleasant place for villagers to enjoy by reporting any incidents of vandalism or anti-social behaviour to the Police - by calling 101 or online via their website.

Projects for the coming year include a review of benches in our green spaces, maintenance of Arnold Recreation Ground gates, review of equipment and safety surfacing in Norman Road Play Area. We will also be exploring the feasibility of installing a pathway to the fitness equipment.

## **Burial Grounds Committee Report**

The Burial Grounds Committee is responsible for the supply and maintenance of the Burial Ground and War Memorial. It also looks after the Closed Churchyard of St Nicholas Church.

We saw a significant increase in ashes burials over the past year, following the lifting of Covid restrictions. Our Regulations and Fees are reviewed annually so please keep an eye out for the latest edition on our website. Paper copies are available from the Parish Office.

The 3 yearly inspection of trees in St Nicholas Churchyard and the Church Garden was undertaken in May 2021. Minor tree works were required, which were completed before the start of the bird nesting season in March 2022.

In May 2021, our contractor also completed memorial stability testing in the Burial Ground, resulting in 23 memorials being found to be unstable in varying states. For safety purposes, it is good practice to carry out checks every 5 years to ensure the site remains safe for staff, contractors and visitors. The search for family or grave owners has taken some time, with requests for help being placed online, on our notice boards and newsletters. Despite our lengthy search and appeals, sadly it has not been possible to find relatives for all the memorials and, regretfully, these have had to be laid down. If you are a grave owner and your contact details have changed, please let the Parish Office know.

The Committee have focused a great deal of time on a Strategy to provide burial space for the Village. There are approximately 10-20 years capacity left in the current location, providing that the burial rates continue at the current rate, and the population does not increase. Potential new rules from DEFRA regarding full body burials may impact the Council's Strategy and, going forward, the Committee will need to take into account any new rules which may be imposed.



## Highways & Environment Committee Report

Following the cancellation of public Remembrance Sunday Service in 2020, we were pleased that the 2021 commemoration was able to go ahead. Deputy Lieutenant Geoffrey Farr attended the War Memorial and St Nicholas Church services, representing the Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire. To enable the service to be heard clearly, a PA system was set up and, for the first time, the roads surrounding the War Memorial were closed during the service. It was great to see so many villagers come out to remember those who fought for us and the parade up to the Church was made safer by the road closures. Our thanks go to Barton Bowls Club, Rotary Club members and the Police who gave their time to manage the road closure points. We will be looking for volunteers to help with the road closures again in November 2022. If you are able to help make this important event possible, please contact the Parish Council Office.

In February 2022, Storm Dudley, followed by Storm Eunice, blew its way through the Village. Sadly, a tree on the boundary of the Burial Ground was unrooted, taking a section of fence with it. Work to clear the stump and fence repairs are ongoing, together with other casualties of the storms.

In the coming year, the Committee will continue work on a Burial Ground Strategy, assessing the hedgerows in the Burial Ground, considering the War Memorial area and reviewing the pathway to St Nicholas Church Garden of Rest.



We were successful in our bid for funding under the HM Government and European Regional Development Fund's Welcome Back Fund scheme. This has allowed the Parish Council to purchase 4 planters for the Village, a notice board for local businesses and a bicycle rack, which will welcome people back to the High Street and encourage support of local businesses following the Pandemic.

A group of local volunteers have formed 'Blooming Barton' and have taken on the ongoing maintenance of the flower planters and planting by the Village gates. They have also planted numerous bulbs around the Village which have been enjoyed by all over the Spring. Their next project is to decorate the Village with flowers to help celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Central Bedfordshire Council secured £300,000 funding over four years for tree planting from the Forestry Commission as part of their Local Authority Treescaping Fund. As a result, Barton-le-Clay have been lucky to see nearly 40 new trees planted around the Village on its green amenity roadside verges.

Following requests from local residents, the Parish Council paid for seating to be provided in the bus shelter on Bedford Road, opposite the Chemist.

The Parish Council supported the Keep Britain Tidy 'Great British Spring Clean' Event, working jointly with the Rotary Club of Barton-le-Clay. Litter picking equipment and safety clothing was purchased for use by the volunteers. 25 bags of rubbish were collected from the roadside verges on Hexton Road, Luton Road and Sharpenhoe Road. The Parish Council have also arranged for several new litter bins to be installed around the Village.

The Village was hit by Storm Eunice in February, resulting in damage to several trees. Thankfully, our Groundsman was able to clear the bulk of the branches.

Excessive speed through the village is one of the most common issues raised by residents and can impact road safety and the quality of life for our residents. The Parish Council have been successful in securing a grant from Bedfordshire Police & Crime Commissioner's Roads Fund Scheme. This will hopefully provide a new speed indicator device for the Village to help encourage drivers to obey the speed limits through the centre of the Village. A community SpeedWatch team is also being established with local resident volunteers to help promote safer driving by educating, rather than prosecution, as well as raising awareness of the dangers of speeding.

Repairs have been carried out to road surfaces, footpaths, hedgerows and fences around the Village in the last year. The Parish Council encourages all residents to use the Central Bedfordshire Council 'FixMyStreet' online site and app, to report any issues they see relating to highways or environment problems.

## Sports Field Committee Report

The Sports Field offers 9 football pitches of various sizes and the Pavilion changing facilities which are currently utilised by 19 Barton Youth teams, Barton Rovers FC, Sunday League teams as well as being used for rugby and cricket by a local junior organisation.

Once play ended in May 2021 the annual maintenance programme began. The pitches were fertilized and reseeded and during this period the sports field was cordoned off to allow the seed time to germinate ready for the new football season. Due to the work carried out by the Groundsmen over the summer the pitches have held up well, with very few matches having to be cancelled. The Pavilion has remained open and the one-way and signing in system was in place until the restrictions were lifted by the Government in February 2022.

Other projects completed include the bottoming out and clearing the ditch which runs along the A6 boundary. The work was successfully carried out and the ditch is running freely. New LED lighting has been installed on the outside of the Pavilion which will help light the surrounding areas as well as discourage anti-social behaviour.

We were fortunate to receive a Restart Grant from Central Bedfordshire Council to compensate for the loss of income during the pandemic. This grant has enabled us to purchase a new white lining machine and replace the old speed humps on the access road.

Due to the age of the Pavilion, significant investment is needed for repairs and upgrades. A Condition Survey of the Building and Specification for a hot water system and plumbing repairs has been commissioned and will be discussed in the coming months. It is hoped that a grant will be secured to help fund these projects.

Following a collision in February 2022, damage was caused to the main entrance gates. We are pleased to advise that necessary repairs will be carried out soon.

This year the committee will be considering repairs and upgrades to The Pavilion, review of signage, outside lighting and access road repairs.



## Policies & Resources Committee Report

### Structure

The Policy & Resources Committee membership is comprised of the Council Chairman, Vice-Chairman plus the individual Committee Chairmen. The Committee is primarily responsible for the administration of the Council, budget allocation and asset-management. The Committee additionally oversees all HR aspects through the Pay & Personnel Sub-Committee. The Committee meets approximately eight to ten times per year, dependent upon the level of business to be transacted.

### Parish Precept 2022/2023

The Parish Council only applied a minimal increase in the 2021/22 Precept because they were conscious that some residents would have lost income as a result of the enforced Pandemic Lockdown in 2020/21. The current rate of inflation now seen, and the price increases being applied by many contractors and suppliers, means that the Parish Council will be incurring much higher costs in 2022/23. Therefore, the Parish Council Precept Budget for 2022/23 was agreed at **£194,715**, representing an increase of £9.06 per year on a Band D property.

### Small Grants

Our precept includes provision for small grants to non-profit organisations that directly benefit our community. Applications are invited in September each year, details of which can be obtained from the Parish Clerk. The Parish Council awarded grants totaling **£3,498.63** this year to the following good causes:

<b>The Barton Players</b> Additional staging for Youth productions	<b>£500.00</b>	<b>Noah's Ark</b> Picnic mats	<b>£50.00</b>
<b>Barton Kids Club</b> Replacement gym mats	<b>£200.00</b>	<b>Barton Helping Hands</b> Public Liability Insurance	<b>£173.63</b>
<b>Barton-le-Clay Bowling Club</b> Security / lawn mower	<b>£350.00</b>	<b>Barton Carpet Bowls Club</b> Electric carpet winder	<b>£375.00</b>
<b>Unity Hall</b> Garden strimmer	<b>£250.00</b>	<b>Royal British Legion</b> Poppy Wreath for Remembrance service	<b>£100.00</b>
<b>Ramsey Manor Lower School PTA</b> Gardening Club equipment	<b>£100.00</b>	<b>Gale Court Residents</b> Afternoon Tea & entertainment event	<b>£325.00</b>
<b>Barton Scout Troop</b> Mess tent and pioneering poles	<b>£400.00</b>	<b>Ramsey Manor Football Club</b> Training for coaches	<b>£500.00</b>
<b>Arnold Academy</b> Annual awards evening prizes	<b>£50.00</b>	<b>Harlington Upper School</b> Annual awards evening prizes	<b>£125.00</b>

## Annual Accounts

The Parish Councils' financial year ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> March each year. Parish Council year-end accounts are checked annually via three levels of audit procedure. Firstly, each Parish Council is required to review the prepared year-end accounts. Secondly, the Parish Council secures the services of an independent Internal Auditor to review and report on finances, policies, procedures and accountability. The final stage requires the council to submit a statement of financial fact to a nationally appointed "External Auditor" - chosen by central government – Mazars LLP.

The Parish Council publishes a set of accounts each year, which can be viewed at both the Parish Office and online Website. The annual accounts will be available to read/download from the Parish Council website by the end of June.

### Pay & Personnel Sub-committee Report

Over the last 12 months it is very pleasing to be able to report that our small team of staff has remained unchanged. Despite the ever present challenges posed by Covid and the changing associated rules, our staff have kept the Council's services and facilities going throughout. This has been no mean feat at times and we are indebted to them for their flexibility and dedication.

We have continued to develop our "Good Employer" policies, adding new ones and updating others to maintain their currency. This process is ongoing.

Annual Staff Performance Reviews/ Appraisals were conducted to schedule and any training needs identified. Staff have undertaken a variety of training activities during the year and will continue to do so.

The April 2021 national pay award was not concluded until early 2022 but individual contractual/performance-dependent adjustments were then implemented without delay.

Without our team of staff the Parish Council simply could not deliver its responsibilities and I would like to sincerely thank every one of them for everything they do.



## BARTON-LE-CLAY PARISH COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET 2021/2022

<b>Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>		
<b>31<sup>st</sup> March 2020</b>		<b>31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>
	<b>Current Assets</b>	
4,663	Debtors	4,474
4,423	VAT	2,808
4,286	Prepayments	3,277
38,875	Current Bank A/C	22,318
220	Savings A/C	5,297
101,582	Public Sector Deposit Fund	101,653
10,217	Tennis Club Account	11,938
84,792	Hampshire Trust	84,792
15,622	Nationwide 45DN Savings A/C	50,759
70	Petty Cash – Office	70
100	Petty Cash - Handyman	100
<b>264,850</b>		<b>287,486</b>
264,850	<b>Total Assets</b>	287,486

	<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
18,872	Creditors	2,124
1,625	BRFC 50% Wayleave	0
298	Accruals	1,562
1,759	Wages	2,532
840	Pensions	1,185
3,250	Receipts in Advance	0
<b>26,645</b>		<b>7,404</b>
238,205	<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>	280,082

## Reports from Parish Council Representatives on Local Organisations

### Barton-le-Clay Educational Trust Report

Board of Trustees: Mr. P. Parrish (Chairman), Mr. D. Cope, Cllr Mrs. B. Thomas, Mrs. L. Gordon, Revd. A. Johnson.

Cllr Ian Shingler resigned from the Trust in November due to ill health and Ms Sallie McIntyre resigned from the Trust in December. Both were thanked for the support they had given to the Trust.

The Trust exists to promote the education of persons between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five who, or whose parents, are resident in one of the following parishes: Barton-le-Clay, Higham Gobion or Pulloxhill. Grants are made annually to Students who have completed statutory education, are in training for a profession or calling, at universities, colleges of education and other institutions of further education. Provision is also made to give financial aid to schools and voluntary organisations which serve young persons within the area of benefit.

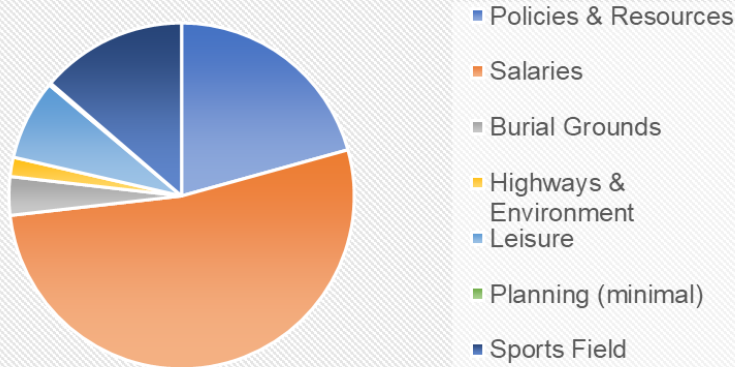
Student applications are called for in October and are considered at the Trust's Annual General Meeting at the beginning of December. Other grants are considered at the ordinary meeting in March. There was a discussion on how the grant system should be advertised following an unauthorised posting on Facebook. Unfortunately, the amount of money available was not enough to give any student a realistic grant if the call for applications were posted on Facebook. It was concluded that the present system would continue.

Three meetings were held this year, in March, November and December, the March meeting by zoom due to the Pandemic.

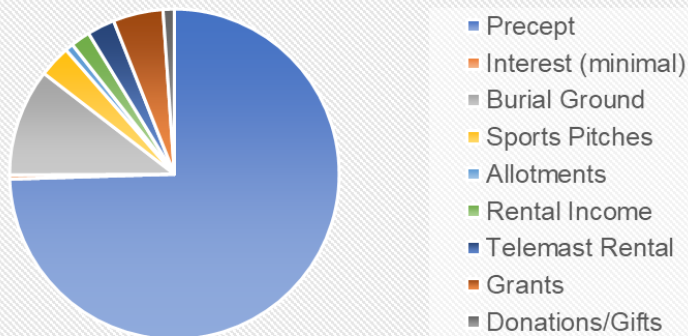
At the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021, accounts and income from investments were checked and all available money was used to increase Student Grants for 2021. The Trust had 32 grant applications from students. 24 were from students studying away from home and 8 from students based at home. The Trustees unanimously awarded £340 to students studying away from home and £230 for those living at home.

At the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022, there was a Charity Commission Financial review, approval of the Risk Assessment Policy, and an overview of the Accounts. A discussion on Land Management, grants for Schools and Youth Organisations The Deeds of the Land within the Arnold Recreation Ground that belongs to the Barton-le-Clay Education Trust were examined, and all members of the Trust were happy to approve the use of their area for the Queen's Jubilee events.

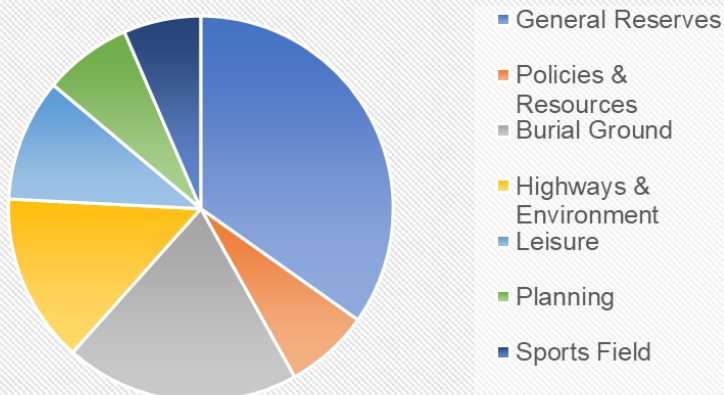
### EXPENDITURE (Total £196,114)



### INCOME (Total £237,991)



### RESERVES (Total £280,082)





## Reports from Parish Council Representatives on Local Organisations

### Village Hall Report

Once again Covid affected the Hall's operation for much of the last year. When the Hall was able to open there was, perhaps understandably, a noticeable lag among user groups regaining the confidence to re-start their activities. Thankfully though, this steadily improved. As a consequence, revenues were adversely impacted. However, the Hall was able to secure some very valuable grants designed to help mitigate Covid impacts and to help the restart of activities. As a result, the Hall ended the year in good financial health.

Significant maintenance was able to be undertaken in the year and the Management Committee also kept focus on the future, in particular catering for the needs of a soon to be much expanded Village. Significant investment was agreed to commission a detailed feasibility study regarding redevelopment/expansion possibilities. Conducted by architects who have substantial experience in this area of work, the feasibility study is an essential foundation for future funding applications relating to the new housing development.

The Hall was also equipped with Broadband and WiFi in order to address the needs of various user groups.

The end of this review period saw the retirement of the Hall's long-serving Caretaker/Maintenance person. We thank Allen for his service and wish him all the very best in his retirement.

Sadly, the Village Hall Management Committee has recently lost another long-standing member with the sad passing of Fred Turner. Both Fred and his wife Maureen have been very active members for many years. We send our sincere condolences to Maureen and family.



## Reports from Parish Council Representatives on Local Organisations

### Local Schools Report

The Parish Council made two grants through the S137 scheme to schools during this year, both were to help recognise and celebrate the success of local students at watershed moments in their education. £50 was awarded to Arnold Academy in Barton-le-Clay for their Year 8 annual leavers' award while £125 was awarded to Harlington Upper School to fund prizes for their Annual Awards ceremony. It is good to hear that both presentation ceremonies are planned to go ahead in the Summer Term, following the cancellations over the past two years due to the Pandemic.

### Barton Tennis Club Report

Barton Tennis Club continues to thrive and provide a valuable asset to our community. Annual membership runs from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March, and is available by contacting the Club on Tel: 01582 881597 or by emailing: [bartonleclaytennisclub@btinternet.com](mailto:bartonleclaytennisclub@btinternet.com)

The Club will hold an open day over the Summer to attract new members, please look for further details on their website <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/BartonTennisClub>

Court usage is controlled by key access and a booking system. Coaching sessions, for both juniors and adults are available through the Club. Regular club nights are arranged.

The court lease fee, payable to the Parish Council, remains for 2021/22 at £1,650. This fund is used towards future resurfacing costs.



