

KE0093

EGERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Section 2	2021/22 £	2022/23 £	Variance (+/-) £	Detailed explanation of variance  (For each reason noted please include monetary values (to nearest £100))
Box 2 <i>Precept</i>	24,294	31,077	+6,783  <b>27.92%</b>	<p>This is a legacy issue. By careful management, fund-raising, encouraging donations towards specific capital projects and using reserves from its deposit account, Egerton Parish Council managed to keep its budget requirements flat – or below flat – for the past three years (please see below).</p> <p>2019-2020: £36, 355</p> <p>2020-21: £36, 285</p> <p>2021-2022: £34, 998</p> <p>And indeed, the budget set in November 2022 at £33,909 was pragmatic; £2,832 in surplus was expected to roll forwards but the money was taken by urgent repairs. In fact, the EPC current account @ 31 March 2022 stood at £364 which meant that the final reserves in the EPC deposit account had to be moved across to make payments for salary/ HMRC in April before the precept was paid. The clerk has also been managing unprecedented volumes of Freedom of Information requests which have latterly been calculated as costing in £8,200 in real terms in hours needed to resolve and answer them. So, while it looks like a substantial increase at +27.92% it reflects below inflation budgeting in prior years – a position that was not sustainable and needed to change on the advice of the internal auditor who required EPC to re-boot its reserves and have better provision for ‘emergency’ spending.</p>
Box 3 <i>Other income</i>	90,596	99,300	+8,704  <b>9.61%</b>	Less than 15%. Explanation not needed.
Box 4 <i>Staff costs</i>	15,476	14,483	(993)	Less than 15%. Explanation not needed.
Box 5 <i>Loan interest/ capital</i>	0	0	0	N/A

<p>Box 6</p> <p><i>Other payments</i></p>	<p>77,033</p>	<p>93,311</p>	<p>(16,278) +21.13%</p>	<p>In the 2022-23-year EPC undertook extensive works to its playground with new items of equipment and allied groundworks to the site totalling £35,072; £1,818 had been held by EPC for VE Day celebrations which were cancelled; these were spent to celebrate the Jubilee summer 2022.</p>
<p>Box 7</p> <p><i>Balances carried forward</i></p>	<p>54,008</p>	<p>76,591</p>	<p>+22,583 41.81%</p>	<p>Games Barn current account: £1,940 held to cover day-to-day running costs; Games Barn Deposit account: £17,786.07 held to install new heating and work to enhance storage.</p> <p>Computer Centre and Film Club: £2,090 held in current account to cover fixed costs and day to day utilities etc; £5,811.92 held in the allied deposit account to cover capital investment in hardware and failure such as a projector.</p> <p>Village improvement fund holds £9,850 to extend facilities in the Millennium Village Hall and Pre-School move to new premises a long and ongoing project for which £11,478 is held to pay for legal and planning fees, etc. Finally, a legacy of £10,000 was left by villager Esme Slatter to the village in 2022. The bequest was to fund the development of a woodland area for the enjoyment of all residents. No land identified as yet for this purpose.</p> <p>The EPC Update account shows a reserve of £4,656.30. These monies are derived from advertising in the Update magazine. The account pays for costs of print/paper/distribution x 4 issues per annum. Advertisers are invoiced annually to cover the year.</p> <p>The EPC deposit account holds £680.72 of which £672 is surplus funds from the jubilee and awarded to the setting up of the Egerton Archive. The Archive does not yet have a live bank account, but this money will go across as soon as it is. The remainder of the money is income from interest.</p> <p>Lastly, the £12,295 shown in the EPC current accounts breaks down as follows: A £5,000 legacy left by villager Ernie Mexter in 2022 for the 'village'. A purpose has not yet been identified or agreed; £1,000 is held as a donation from Borough Councillor Ken Mulholland for the printing of the Neighbourhood Plan (which is pending); the remaining £6295 is held to cover legal fees which hadn't shown through by year end, and to meet April invoices for salary/HMRC/annual playground inspections before the precept was paid on 4 May by Ashford Borough Council. Total reserves: £76,591.</p>

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<p>Box 9</p> <p><i>Fixed assets &amp; long-term assets</i></p>	<p>308,164</p>	<p>326,793</p>	<p>+18,629</p> <p><b>6.05%</b></p>	<p><b>Year on year change</b></p> <p>* Three new items of playground equipment installed totalling: <b>£17,197.20</b></p> <p>*New salt bin at <b>£228.36</b> and new noticeboard at The Forstal <b>£780.00</b>. Two planters on The Glebe <b>£423.20</b> Total here: <b>£1,431.56</b></p> <p>*Net year-on-year change to the Egerton Parish Council Asset Register is an increase of <b>£18, 628.76</b></p>
<p>Box 10</p> <p><i>Total borrowing</i></p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>