

L J Crumpton-Taylor

**Pot Kilns,
Pot Kiln Chase,
Gestingthorpe,
Halstead,
Essex. CO9 3BH.**

e-mail. lesliecrumptontaylor@gmail.com

3rd July 2020

Gestingthorpe Parish Council Audit Y/E 31st March 2020

The y/e 31st March 2020 has been an unusual year. The last full Parish Council Meeting was held on 16th January 2020 at which the 2020/21 budget & precept were considered and approved. Council Finance Policies were discussed as part of this. Subsequent Meetings to date have been cancelled under instruction of National Government but full reconciliations had been prepared and circulated for a planned Meeting on 19th March 2020. End of month reconciliations have continued to be made.

There have been two operational changes in the year. The Clerk's March salary is paid earlier in the month to enable funds to have cleared the bank account by the year end (Although HMRC failed to clear their cheque). VAT Refund for a year had been claimed previously at the start of the next year. By making an earlier claim in February 2020 much of the VAT of this year was back in the bank account by the year end date. These both give a clearer view of cash flow. To set against this it should be noted that the regular annual donations to the Churchyard Fund (£300), The Village Hall (£200) and The Air Ambulance (£200) have not been paid out nor repairs to the play equipment done so the balances at the year end appear higher than they should.

Cheques 784 – 816 (with only 802 spoilt) were used in the year with only 812 -814 unrepresented at the year end. All presented cheques are supported by invoices and the amounts confirmed by bank statements while 812 – 814 are as invoiced. Income is thoroughly supported by documentation. Questions raised with the Parish Clerk were promptly and satisfactorily answered.

At the end of the year a small water bill was paid by cheque but also taken by direct debit. This credit will probably cover the first bill of 2020/21.

The Records are well kept and neatly stored so it is recommended that the Accounts for the Y/E 31st March 2020 be based on the figures recorded.

**Leslie Crumpton-Taylor
3rd July 2020.**