

Appendix B Budget Monitoring Report 31 December 2025 (month 9)

Summary

The Council approved a break-even budget expected to leave reserves at £38,000.

The actual position at 2024/25 year-end was 3% more favourable than budgeted leaving reserves at £39,161 due to three expected payments for which payment was deferred until 2025/2026.

At month 9 of 2025/26 reserves are 5% (£2,054) more favourable than budgeted partly due to delayed expenditure such as Q3 staff costs of £700 paid in January 2026 and a quotation still not received for outstanding playground repairs (budget underspent by £472). However, cemetery income is now £600 ahead of budget and a small year-end surplus is forecast.

Budget Line	Approved 2025/26 Budget (£)	Profiled Budget to 31/12/25 (£)	Actual to 31/12/25 (£)	Variance (£)	Variance (%)	Variance
Receipts						
Allotments	225.00	225.00	260.00	35.00	0%	
Bank Interest	1400.00	1050.00	897.68	-152.32	-15%	
Cemetery	875.00	656.25	1,255.50	599.25	91%	1
General Income	0.00	0.00	143.86	143.86		
Grants	750.00	750.00	2,027.30	1277.30	170%	2
Precept D.C.C.	6500.00	6,500.00	6,500.00	0.00	0%	
Vat Refund	580.00	580	499.91	-80.09	-14%	
West Clint Field	220.00	220.00	220.00	0.00	0%	
	10,550.00	9,981.25	11,804.25	1823.00	18%	
Payments						
Allotments	350.00	350.00	880.00	530.00	151%	3
Cemetery & Village	2025.00	1518.75	1,570.00	51.25	3%	
Footpaths	750.00	750.00	2,027.30	1277.30	170%	2
General Expenses	850.00	637.50	722.86	85.36	13%	
Grass Cutting	1215.00	1215.00	1,350.00	135.00	11%	
Insurance	610.00	610.00	448.00	-162.00	-27%	
Clerks salary	2400.00	1800.00	1,203.97	-596.03	-33%	4
PAYE	600.00	450.00	301.40	-148.60	-33%	
Playground	925.00	693.75	221.84	-471.91	-68%	5
VAT	825.00	618.75	847.52	228.77	37%	
	10,550.00	8,643.75	9,572.89	929.14	11%	
Opening Reserves at 1/4/25	38000.00	38000.00	39160.80	1160.80	3%	
Receipts	10,550.00	9,981.25	11804.25	1823.00	18%	
Payments	-	8,643.75	9,572.89	-929.14	11%	
Closing Reserves	38,000.00	39,337.50	41,392.16	2054.66	5.2%	

Note: Payments exclude a £32,000 deposit in a long-term investment as this is an internal transaction, although it removes this money from cash balances in the accounts.

Commentary on significant variances

Explanations for the significant variances (above 15% and £250) on individual budget lines are as follows (excluding VAT as separate budget line):

- 1/ Unreserved burial December 2025 generated a receipt of **£725**.
- 2/ Footpath repairs using hardwood for longer life so cost and grant higher than budget. No net impact.
- 3/ Deferred expenditure from 24/25 regarding allotment site rent **£350** and wall repair **£180**.
- 4/ Q3 clerk's salary not paid until January 2026 **£700 gross** £560 net.
- 5/ Playground inspections have identified one significant repair in 25/26 but still waiting for quotations (currently **£472** below the profiled budget).

Conclusion

There are no significant concerns regarding budgetary control at month 9 of 2025/26. The underlying position is slightly improved with a net underspend of £500 forecast meaning that £38,500 of reserves are anticipated at year-end in line with the 2026/27 Budget.