

Financial Report for the Annual Parish Meeting – May 2026

2025/26 Financial Year

The accounts are still to be audited.

The Precept increased to £39,826 (from £36,980).

There was no easement income in the year.

Whilst interest rates had decreased from the previous year income was slightly higher than budgeted.

Income from the Fireworks and Bonfire event was the highest on record.

Expenditure on fireworks was increased but feedback was the display was the best on record.

The Maintenance Contract was overspent as the budget was set before the contract was renegotiated.

As in the previous year, there was a large expenditure on maintenance materials – part of a catch-up requirement.

Expenditure on utilities was within budget.

The training expenditure reflects the appointment of a Deputy Clerk.

The Donations expenditure was offset by a 50% contribution to support The Journal by Hilton Town Trust.

The significant expenditure on lighting reflects the decision to replace sodium lamps with LED lanterns.

The general reserves were around 50% of the Precept after allowing for the VAT reclaim (£4k+) which is pending.

2026/27 Financial Year

The Precept agreed is for £41,570 which is an increase of £1,744 or 4.4%.

There is an expectation of savings on utilities due to the savings as a result of the replacement of sodium lamps with LED lanterns for the HPC owned street lights.