

MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026
DRAFT

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 require all authorities to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year in accordance with proper practices.

Where an authority's gross income and expenditure accounts is not more than £200,000 for that year, or for either of the two immediately preceding financial years, the statement may take the form of a summary receipts and payments account, as here.

**Financial Accounts to be approved by the Parish Council at its meeting on the
5 May 2026**

**Draft Financial Accounts are subject to audit by PKF Littlejohn,
the Parish Council's external auditors.**

MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL
SUMMARY RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
RECEIPTS		
Precept	45,000.00	44,000.00
Pavilion income	2,622.00	394.00
Grants	-	2,624.20
Burial fees	4,075.00	4,800.00
Other	1,639.38	529.37
VAT reclaimed	6,524.96	1,734.10
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>59,861.34</u>	<u>54,081.67</u>
PAYMENTS		
Staff costs	9,402.94	10,389.60
PWLB loan repayment - Pavilion	5,387.46	5,387.46
PWLB loan repayment - Lighting	2,734.64	2,734.64
Administration costs	3,766.91	2,746.08
Insurance	3,500.42	2,814.00
Audit fees	815.00	695.00
Election expenses	-	54.15
Maintenance of open spaces	13,869.06	24,430.83
War memorial	1,060.89	1,056.22
Pavilion running costs and maintenance	2,021.96	997.22
Grants and donations (Section 137 expenditure)	500.00	3,423.00
Footpath re-surfacing	-	4,895.00
Replacement Bench	530.00	-
Burial ground	7,825.36	10,148.95
VAT	2,700.62	6,524.96
TOTAL PAYMENTS	<u>54,115.26</u>	<u>76,297.11</u>
NET RECEIPTS/PAYMENTS	5,746.08	-22,215.44
BALANCE BOUGHT FORWARD	79,256.98	101,472.42
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	<u>85,003.06</u>	<u>79,256.98</u>
Balance carried forward relates to:		
Parish Council	64,804.84	55,308.40
Burial Authority	20,198.22	23,948.58
	<u>85,003.06</u>	<u>79,256.98</u>

Approved by the Parish Council on 5 May 2026

Chair

Responsible Financial Officer

MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL

SUPPORTING NOTES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

ASSETS

The only asset purchased this year was a replacement bench. No assets were purchased in the prior year.

No assets have been sold in the current year. However, a bench was written off.

	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
	£	£
At the year end, the following assets were held:		
<u>Community assets:</u>		
Sports Pavilion	1.00	1.00
Much Hadham Village Hall	1.00	1.00
Much Hadham Recreation Ground	1.00	1.00
Much Hadham Burial Ground	1.00	1.00
Perry Green Burial Ground	1.00	1.00
Village Green - Perry Green	1.00	1.00
Village Green - Green Tye	1.00	1.00
Bowls Pavilion	1.00	1.00
	<u>8.00</u>	<u>8.00</u>
<u>Other fixed assets:</u>		
Pavilion refurbishment	116,857.00	116,857.00
Roller shutter (Pavilion)	1,760.00	1,760.00
Village Hall Green Room Floor	11,659.56	11,659.56
Children's play equipment	69,491.53	69,491.53
War Memorial	# 26,013.00	26,013.00
Iron gate and fencing	# 6,302.00	6,302.00
Post and chain fencing	# 3,633.00	3,633.00
Bus Shelters	9,702.00	9,702.00
Millenium sign	2,784.00	2,784.00
Best Kept Village sign	# 2,786.00	2,786.00
Stone and timber seats	## 7,995.39	7,815.39
Litter bins	722.68	722.68
Speed Indicator Device (SID)	5,100.00	5,100.00
Laptop	524.17	524.17
Defibrillator	2,440.00	2,440.00
Notice boards and map board (donated)	1.00	1.00
	<u>267,771.33</u>	<u>267,591.33</u>
Total assets	<u>267,779.33</u>	<u>267,599.33</u>

Majority of assets are valued at cost. Community and donated assets are nominally valued at £1.

The value of these assets were determined using insurance values as a proxy in March 2010.

The majority of the items within this classification have an insurance proxy value.

MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL

SUPPORTING NOTES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

FUND BALANCES	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
	£	£

The Parish Council's Fund Balances are held in the following bank accounts:

Unity Trust Current Account	2,876.85	28,770.15
Unity Trust Savings Account	82,126.21	50,486.83
	<u>85,003.06</u>	<u>79,256.98</u>

BURIAL AUTHORITY	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£

The Burial Authority receipts and payments account is analysed below:

Receipts

Burial fees	3,630.00	4,370.00
Memorial and inscription fees	445.00	430.00
	<u>4,075.00</u>	<u>4,800.00</u>

Payments

Burial grounds maintenance	6,070.00	1,920.00
Other maintenance	1,385.00	1,500.00
Water	200.36	179.13
Other	170.00	299.82
Perry Green Burial Ground extension	-	6,250.00
	<u>7,825.36</u>	<u>10,148.95</u>

EARMARKED RESERVES	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
	£	£

The Parish Council has the following earmarked reserves:

Noticeboards	3,000.00	-
Playground	15,000.00	-
Open spaces	17,500.00	-
Section 106 receipts for sport and recreation	-	1,570.00
	<u>35,500.00</u>	<u>1,570.00</u>

Earmarked reserves are established for specific purposes:

- ~ Noticeboards: to fund their renovation or replacement, and additions;
- ~ Playground: contribution towards new equipment at the Recreation Ground;
- ~ Open spaces: primarily to cover tree work at the Recreation Ground; and
- ~ Section 106 receipts: the reserve was spent in the current year on playground maintenance

MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL

SUPPORTING NOTES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

BORROWING

The Parish Council obtained the following loan to fund the refurbishment of the Pavilion:

Lender:	Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)
Loan sum:	£80,000
Loan term:	20 years
Interest rate:	3.08%
Loan period:	May 2015 to May 2035

Repayments of capital and interest totalling £2,693.73 are made each May and November.
The balance of the loan outstanding at the year end was £44,081.71 (31 March 2025 £48,020.24)

The Parish Council obtained the following loan to fund the refurbishment of the parish street lighting, prior to transferring the assets to Hertfordshire County Council in 2024:

Lender:	Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)
Loan sum:	£25,000
Loan term:	10 years
Interest rate:	1.74%
Loan period:	October 2021 to October 2031

Repayments of capital and interest totalling £1,367.32 are made each April and October, starting from April 2022. The balance of the loan outstanding at the year end was £15,516.43 (31 March 2025 £17,949.29)

LEASES

The Parish Council is entering into a lease agreement with Windhill Investments (Perry Green) Limited allowing access to The Hoops Inn via a footbridge from the common land at Perry Green.
The term of 10 years was due to commence on 1 June 2024 and expire on 31 May 2034, for an initial rental of £600 per annum, increasing by the Retail Price Index in subsequent years.

However, no rent has been received in the current or prior year as the legal formalities remain incomplete.

SECTION 137 PAYMENTS

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) enables the Parish Council to spend up to £11.21 (2024/25 £10.81) per head on the electoral roll in any one year for the benefit of people in its area on activities or projects not specifically authorised by other powers. The total amount available for this purpose was £18,036.89 (2024/25 £17,393.29).

The Parish Council made the following grants and donations:

	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
Donated equipment to Community Football Coaching	-	2,423.00
Grant to Station Road Residents' Association for road resurfacing	-	1,000.00
Donation to Citizens Advice East Herts	500.00	
	<u>500.00</u>	<u>3,423.00</u>

MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL

SUPPORTING NOTES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

GRANTS RECEIVED	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
The Parish Council received the following grants:		
Stansted Airport Ltd - donated football equipment	-	2,400.00
Much Hadham Sports Association - Pavilion and open spaces	-	224.20
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,624.20</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,624.20</u>

ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY

Section 5 of the Local Government Act 1986 requires the Parish Council to disclose payments on advertising and publicity. No such payments were made in the current or prior year.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Parish Council has not made any provision for contingent liabilities as it is not envisaged that it will suffer a loss or incur a cost in the future.

VAT	31 March	31 March
	2026	2025
	£	£
The Parish Council reclaims VAT on expenditure.		
The claim for the current year will be received in May 2026.		
The breakdown per year is:	<u>2,700.62</u>	<u>6,524.96</u>
	<u>2,700.62</u>	<u>6,524.96</u>

TRUST AND CHARITABLE FUNDS

The Parish Council does not act as sole Trustee for any funds.

Chair

Responsible Financial Officer