

Drinkstone Parish Council

Clerk's report

November 2025

This is first meeting since August 2025.

There has been negligible activity during the Summer months.

Cash

The cash balances as at 3rd November are:

Current a/c	2,482.83
Savings a/c	22,132.13
Total	24,614.96
VAT rebate due – approx.	4,200.00
Total surplus	28,814.96
CIL accounts for	2,644.17
General reserve	26,170.79

Projected expenses to the end of the financial year are less than £2,000. If the PC agrees a budget of £11,400 for 2026/7 then the potential reserve to precept ration will be 212% - this is above the maximum recommended threshold.

The PC needs to consider where funds might be spent in the forthcoming winter months. A potential area for consideration would be further improvements to the playground where £3,000 is already available for matching from the Drinkstone Educational Charity.

2026/7 Budget

Two documents are attached showing the proposed budget for next year plus an explanation of how the draft figure has been set.

The paper advocates an increase on the basis that if the budget is frozen or reduced it will be harder in the future to raise monies if needed.

Allotments

£250 was repaid by the Allotment Charity for the cost of the gates charged to the PC by Sapphire which was outside the CIL grant.

Michael Walton

Clerk

3rd November 2025