

Finances – Culham PC

The Clerk is also the Reporting Financial Officer for the Council.

Precept – the annual precept is the amount of funding requested from SODC by the PC. Each year, the PC agrees a budget and requests the precept based on the expected costs for providing services to the Parish – such as dog waste bins, grass cutting and maintenance, tree surgery, playground maintenance etc. Other funding can be requested in the form of grants from various bodies. Some reserve funds are held to cover unexpected costs.

The **Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)** is a statutory requirement for smaller authorities, including parish councils, local bodies in England. It ensures transparency, accountability, and compliance with proper practices in financial management. The AGAR must be completed **after the end of the financial year and before the end of June** each year, covering the authority's income, expenditure, and governance arrangements.

The internal audit is carried out each year immediately following the year end (31st March) and the final internal audit report can be viewed on the website. (Year 2025-26 to be uploaded following this meeting). The council will review up the governance recommendations made by the auditor, this may include some updates to policies and to the website to ensure compliance. The Clerk will forward the AGAR once signed at the annual meeting and by the internal auditor, to the external auditor Moore, along with accompanying documents such as explanations of budget variance.

Members of the public can request to see the accounts for the financial year via a request email to the Clerk. Notice of public rights and publication of unaudited accounts will be posted on the noticeboards and website. This year the documents will be available for inspection from Wednesday 3rd June until Tuesday 14th June 2026.

Previous accounts can be found on the PC website. Once the external auditor has inspected and approved the accounts for 2025-26, these will be uploaded to the website.