



Rolleston on Dove Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Mary Danby BA (Hons)
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Our Ref: MD

05 January 2026

To: All Members of the Parish Council

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Old Grammar School Room, adjacent to St Mary's Church, Church Road, Rolleston on Dove DE13 9BE on **Monday 12 January 2026** commencing at 7pm at which the business set out below will be transacted.

Yours sincerely

MDanby

Mary Danby
Clerk

PUBLIC FORUM

A maximum of 15 minutes will be allocated prior to the commencement of the meeting when members of the public may put questions/comments on any matter in relation to which the parish council has powers or duties which affect the area.

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**
- 3. Planning applications**

Application No.	Location	Proposal
P/2024/01198	Land at Tutbury Road	Reserved Matters application (being details of appearance, layout, scale and landscaping) pursuant to outline planning application ref P/2021/00868 in relation to Phase One to include the erection of 300no. residential dwellings (Use Class C3), 81no. bedroom care home building for the elderly (Use Class C2) and associated public open space and associated infrastructure works (SECOND AMENDED PLANS/DOCUMENTS RECEIVED)
P/2025/01357	31 Beacon Drive	Demolition of existing property, construction of new gable wall to 29 Beacon Drive, erection of 2no. self-build semi-detached dwellings

P/2025/01381	Thornley Hollows 2 Church Road	Conversion and alterations of existing outbuilding to form annex, raising of roof parapet, render to all elevations, replacement roof ladder, alterations to existing garage door and fenestration including installation of first floor side facing window and installation of solar panels, battery store and air source heat pump
P/2025/01402	Brookfield House Brookside	Demolition of single storey side extension and rear conservatory to facilitate the erection of a two storey side extension with balcony, erection of a single storey rear extension, installation of roof lights and flue

4. To consider the Minutes of the meeting held on 08 December 2025 (Enclosure 1)

5. Matters arising from the previous meeting

6. Councillors' reports

7. Financial matters

7.1 Schedule of payments due

Payee	Description	Payment Method	Gross £	VAT £
Staffordshire History Development Trust	Shelf sponsorship (Approved by the PC at the December 2025 meeting)	BACS (Pd 12/12/25)	50.00	0.00
O2	Council mobile (December invoice)	DD (Pd 23/12/25)	15.60	2.60
P Gould	Mowing contract	BACS	1,354.58	0.00
IONOS Cloud Ltd	Hosting PC's co.uk domain	DD	8.40	1.40
ESBC	Bin emptying (4 th qtr 2025/26)	BACS	1,540.25	256.71
Clerk	Salary and expenses	BACS	1,482.19	0.00
J Deacon	Environmental contract £1,376.10 Craythorne barrier lock/unlock £223.20 Remove broken goal post from Craythorne car park lock/unlock £42.00	BACS	1,641.30	273.55
Total			6,092.32	534.26

7.2 Bank reconciliation at 31 December

		Community Account	Instant Access Account	Total
01 April 2025	Opening balances	£ 15,667.27	£77,360.20	£ 93,027.47
Movement in funds to date	PLUS Income	£112,226.18	£ 7,981.82	£120,208.00
	LESS Expenditure	£ 75,977.04	£ 0.00	£ 75,977.04
31 December 2025	Bank Statement	£ 51,916.41	£85,342.02	£137,258.43

7.3 Earmarked Reserves at 31 December

	Opening funds 01/04/2025	Movement in funds to date	Available funds 31/12/2025
Environmental improvements	£ 7,100.00	(£ 640.00)	£ 6,460.00
Brook Hollows	£ 9,326.50	(£1,800.00)	£ 7,526.50
Play areas	£20,250.00		£20,250.00
Speed Indicator Device	£11,000.00	(£5,377.00)	£ 5,623.00
Total	£47,676.50	(£7,817.00)	£39,859.50

8. Receipts and payments to 31 December 2025 and draft 2026/27 budget (Enclosure 2)

9. 2026/27 Precept declaration

The Council is requested to formally declare the 2026/27 Precept to be declared on East Staffordshire Borough Council.

10. Rolleston and Doveside Women's Institute (WI): Grant aid application

Rolleston and Doveside Women's Institute (WI) have requested a grant of £300:

As many residents have noted, our members take great pride in creating handcrafted displays for the village post boxes. These toppers have become a beloved local fixture, helping to brighten our public spaces, mark seasonal celebrations and foster a sense of community spirit and pride in our village.

Project Details and Funding Requirement

To keep the displays fresh and relevant for residents we aim to rotate the toppers every six weeks. This ensures that the village remains vibrant throughout the year, celebrating everything from local heritage to national holidays.

*However, the cost of high-quality materials to enable the toppers to survive the British weather is approximately **£30 per topper** (wool, stuffing, stiffening material - wire, wood). To sustain this initiative for the coming year, we are seeking a grant to cover the following:*

- **Frequency:** 10 changes per year (approx. every 6 weeks)
- **Cost per topper:** £30
- **Total Grant Requested:** £300

Community Benefit

The WI is a non-profit organization and while our members volunteer hundreds of hours of their time to knit and crochet these designs, the material costs are becoming difficult to sustain through our internal funds alone. We need to buy wool, stuffing, etc.

These toppers serve as a point of conversation for walkers, bring joy to children and demonstrate that Rolleston on Dove is an active, caring community. We believe this small investment provides a significant "feel-good factor" for the village at a very low cost.

We would be incredibly grateful if the Parish Council would consider supporting this creative contribution to our village life. I am happy to provide any further information or attend a meeting to discuss this application further. If you are unable to help us, we would much appreciate it if you would pass our request to ESBC Councillors grant fund.

Thank you for your time and for all you do for our community.

11. S106 Sport England funds

12. Flooding

12.1 Introduction of Community Flood Officers at Severn Trent

My name is Emma Sharp, and I have recently taken on the role of Community Flood Officer for Staffordshire within the Water, Quality & Environment Team at Severn Trent. I am reaching out to introduce myself and begin building connections with key partners across councils and other authorities involved in flood risk management.

My role focuses on supporting communities across Staffordshire in understanding flood risk, promoting resilience, and facilitating collaborative approaches to flood mitigation. In addition, I will also be acting as a key point of contact for communities across Staffordshire – responding to questions and concerns related to flooding and helping to bridge the gap between local communities and our technical teams at Severn Trent. My aim is to ensure that community voices are heard and reflected in our flood risk management work.

I will be working closely with local authorities, the Environment Agency, and other stakeholders to help deliver meaningful outcomes for our customers and the environment.

I'd really appreciate the opportunity to connect with you and learn more about your current priorities, projects, and any areas where collaboration might be beneficial. If there are any meetings, drop-ins, or initiatives you think would be suitable for me to attend, I'd be very keen to get involved.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you'd like to arrange a quick introductory chat or share any relevant updates.

I look forward to working together.

13. Martyn's Law

14. Correspondence

14.1 Letter to the Prime Minister - Local Government Reorganisation

Councillor Mark Deaville, Staffordshire Moorlands District Council contacted the council on 11 December 2025:

At the recent Full Council Assembly at SMDC the Council's proposal for Local Government were passed to be forwarded to the Government for their consideration.

My feelings against this reorganisation of local government are well known, I am totally against these proposals as I feel they are not beneficial to the people of the Staffordshire Moorlands.

*I have already written to The Secretary of State for Housing Communities and Local Government expressing my concerns. Please see attached letter to the Prime Minister expressing these same concerns (**Enclosure 3**).*

I have invited all members of SMDC to sign the letter (regardless of the way they voted at the meeting). This matter transcends party politics - it is much more important than that, it concerns the future identity, governance and very future of our District.

I invite you to consider signing my letter on behalf of your Parish Council. Please indicate if you wish to endorse my letter by 21 January 2026.

Many thanks for your attention to this matter.

14.2 Rolleston Station Heritage Group

The Group has become aware of the National Transport Trust 'Red Wheels' scheme (<https://www.nationaltransporttrust.org.uk/nominate-red-wheel-site>) and it is believed that the station site could be a contender for listing. A plaque would be received which would be located on the wall and members of the Trust would be made aware of its existence through various media that the Trust publishes.

The owner's full details including postal address are required for the application if the council approve the application being made.

14.3 PC Tree Survey and Register

A resident has contacted the council as follows:

Comment in respect of the 8th December Minutes under Matters Arising 120 namely: Item Minute 103.6 relating to proposed Parish Council Tree Survey and Register:

ADD: Trees affected by Ivy infestation (invasive species) and recommendations. (Previously raised this issue to those trees affected on Knowles Hill owned by SCC).

Appreciate there are different viewpoints on the matter but an independent assessment by qualified/professional Arboriculturist(s) ought to form part of the procedure.

Brook Hollows ... it is my understanding that the invasion of Ivy to mature trees has and is being addressed following consultation with respective parties.

Thank you for your considerations on the matter.

15. Exclusion of the Press and public

16. Quotations (Enclosure 4)

17. Environmental and Mowing Contracts (Enclosure 5)

**Minutes of a meeting of Rolleston on Dove Parish Council
held at the Old Grammar School Room, Church Road on
Monday 08 December 2025 commencing at 7pm**

Present

Councillor Stewart (in the Chair)

Councillors Appleby, Badcock, Gallone, Houston, E McManus, S McManus, Peirce, Robson and Sanderson

In attendance

Alice Peck and Lydia Press, Youth Representatives

Mary Danby, Clerk

Public Forum

No comments/queries were put to the council.

116. Apologies for absence

Councillor Storer.

117. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

None declared.

118. Planning matters

118.1 Planning applications

Application No.	Location	Proposal	Comment
P/2025/01266	Woodlea 18 Lodge Hill	Crown reduction in height up to 6 metres and side reduction up to 2 metres of one Sycamore tree (A1 of TPO 1)	No objection
P/2025/01269	109 The Lawns	Erection of a single storey rear extension with a render finish, demolition of detached garage, removal of chimney, replace existing front window with a curved bay window and widening of existing window on the front elevation and reinstatement of door and installation of a new window on the East elevation	No objection
P/2025/01316	The Croft Burnside	Fell one Plum tree (T1), crown lift one Oak tree by up to 2 metres (T2), crown lift one Sycamore tree by up to 2 metres reduce limbs by up to 2 metres and remove basil growth (T4), crown lift one London Plane tree by up to 3 metres (T5), crown lift three Maple trees by up to 2.5 metres (T6, T7 and T8), crown lift one Ash tree by up to 2 metres (T9) and crown lift one Silver Birch tree by up to 3 metres (T10)	No objection
P/2025/01318	Burnside House Burnside	Crown lift one Willow tree by up to 4 metres over the Brook and footpath (T1) and crown lift one Willow tree by up to 2 metres over the Brook and by up to 4 metres over the footpath (T2)	No objection

P/2025/01322	The Croft Burnside	Crown lift by up to 3 metres, tidy poor previous pruning and cut back branches by up to 1.5 metres from neighbouring building of one Copper Beech tree (T3) (TPO 459)	No objection
P/2025/01330	Roscavan South Hill	Overall crown reduction up to 3 metres of one Oak tree (T3 of TPO 442)	No objection

119. Minutes

Resolved That the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 November 2025 be approved and signed as a true record.

120. Matters arising

Minute No. 102 re Rolleston Civic Trust: Proposal re Old Girls Grammar School

Councillor Sanderson reported that ESBC's Conservation Officer had visited the building and she had given advice which would be discussed by the Friends Group in the New Year.

Minute No. 102 re Cherry tree – Brookside

Staffordshire Highways had confirmed that the Cherry tree would be cut back week commencing 06 January 2026.

Minute No. 102 re Sport England funds

Councillor Stewart reported that she had yet to receive a response from secretary to Bellways Regional Managing Director; she had also requested that the ESBC Ward Councillors put a question to ESBC's Full Council meeting requesting that the S106 condition variation be resolved – Councillor Lock had confirmed that he would pursue the issue with Officers and that a question would be put to ESBC's February council meeting.

Minute No. 103.3 re Marston Lane traffic chaos

Staffordshire Highways had confirmed that the council's comments would be relayed to National Highways. Councillors referred to the ongoing traffic issues in Marston Lane were raised again and they were advised that residents have formed a Marston Lane residents group as they often have difficulty in getting off their drives due to traffic coming through the village to avoid the A38 roadworks; they were also advised that a 40 tonne HGV had got stuck on the Mill Fleam bridge.

Councillors stressed that these issues arise every time there is a problem on the A38 and the issues are not restricted to the current roadworks at Eggington.

Agreed That County Councillor White be requested to liaise again with Highways Officers with a view to better signage being installed indicating a maximum length vehicle that can be accommodated on Marston Lane and/or implementing a weight limit.

Minute No. 103.5 re Tutbury Road footpath

Councillor Peirce confirmed that he would be meeting with the contractor on site on 09 December to discuss what work was required to enable a quotation to be provided.

Minute No.103.6, 1st bullet point re PSPO signate on Tafflands

Councillor Stewart reported that the posts had been installed in readiness for ESBC to install the PSPO signs but these had yet to be installed.

Minute No.103.6, 3rd bullet point re trees on Tafflands

Councillor Stewart reported that she would be meeting with the National Forest Woodland Manager on site on 15 January 2026, though it was noted that he would only be able to provide a general background of woodland management routes.

Councillors noted that the council did not have an accurate register of trees on PC-owned land and there was a need for trees on all the sites to be inspected.

Agreed That quotations be sought from qualified Arboriculturalists to undertake a survey of the trees on all PC-owned sites and a report provided identifying any maintenance requirements.

Minute No. 103.7, 3rd bullet point re noticeboard on the Elizabeth Avenue playing field

Councillors noted that a response had not been received from FOJORPS.

Agreed that FOJORPS/School be advised again that the noticeboard will be removed if they are unable or unwilling to take responsibility for the noticeboard.

121. Councillors reports

121.1 Councillor Gallone reported that:

- The Environment Agency had advised that the presence of American Crayfish in the Brook had been passed to the Fisheries Department.
- He noted from a Facebook post that the Civic Trust had cleaned graffiti off the gateway sign located on Craythorne Road.

121.2 Councillor Robson reported that old notices on the Diamond Jubilee Orchard had been removed and updated.

121.3 Councillor Sanderson reported that:

- He had reported an overflowing dog bin on the Bellway estate by the balancing pond to ESBC.
- He had reported a raised metal cover on Burnside outside the Club to Staffordshire Highways in February 2025 but this had yet to be resolved. **Agreed** that this issue be reported again to the County Council.

121.4 Councillor Houston noted that traffic survey equipment had been installed across Craythorne Road and asked why this had been done. **Agreed** that this query be put to Staffordshire Highways.

121.5 Councillor Peirce noted that signs advertising the Tutbury Christmas Lights Switch-on event were still in situ and asked if these could be taken down as the event had already taken place. He was advised that he could take the signs down if they were attached to street furniture.

121.6 Councillor Appleby reported that:

- The Environment Agency were undertaking works to tidy up vegetation on the Brook banks.
- He thanked Lydia Press, Youth Representative for decorating the council's tree for the St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival.

121.7 Councillor Stewart had provided a report saying that:

- She was joining a call with the MP and the EA on 10 December regarding flooding and the proposed public meeting, she said that she would ask that someone take ownership of the Ford.
- A branch had fallen from a large tree on the Jinny Trail and a tree surgeon had advised that the tree should be felled due to a fungal infection – a quotation was awaited for this work.
- The application to Staffordshire Community Fund towards the cost of re-stoning a section of the Jinny Trail had been successful (see also Minute No.)
- The Village Directory and the Rollestonian insert need to be submitted on or before 07 January 2026.

122. Financial matters

122.1 Schedule of payments

Payee	Description	Payment Method	Gross £	VAT £
Lloyds Bank	Bank charges (October)	DD	4.25	0.00
Amazon	Printer cable (connect laptop to the new printer)	Debit Card (Pd 10/11/25)	11.98	2.00
SLCC Enterprises	Local Council Administration book	BACS	149.40	0.90
P Gould	Mowing contract	BACS	1,354.58	0.00
Woodside Nurseries	Winter planting of 3 No. Village gateway planters	BACS	180.00	0.00
The Croft Christmas Trees	Village Christmas tree	BACS	195.00	0.00
IONOS Cloud Ltd	Hosting PC's co.uk domain	DD	8.40	1.40
SPCA	Data Protection training (Session 2 of 3) (Clerk)	BACS	48.00	8.00
Clerk	Salary and expenses	BACS	1,483.99	0.00
HMRC	NI/PAYE 3 rd qtr 2025/26	BACS	1,734.81	0.00
J Deacon	Environmental contract: £1,376.10 Craythorne barrier lock/unlock: £223.20 Partial rebuild stile 21: £228.00 Strim Church Road footpath: £96.00 Meadow View – cut branches: £120.00	BACS	2,043.30	340.55
Lloyds Bank	Bank charges (November)	DD	4.25	0.00
Total			7,217.96	352.85

Resolved That the above payments be approved.

122.2 Bank reconciliation at 30 November 2025

		Community Account	Instant Access Account	Total
01 April 2025	Opening balances	£ 15,667.27	£77,360.20	£ 93,027.47
Movement in funds to date	PLUS Income	£110,763.68	£ 7,941.16	£118,704.84
	LESS Expenditure	£ 68,709.71	£ 0.00	£ 68,709.71
30 November 2025	Bank Statement	£ 57,721.24	£85,301.36	£143,022.60

Resolved That the above was a true record.

122.3 Earmarked Reserves

Resolved That the council’s Earmarked Reserves (EMRs) at 30 November 2025 were:

	Opening funds 01/04/2025	Movement in funds to date	Available funds 30/11/2025
Environmental improvements	£ 7,100.00	(£ 640.00)	£ 6,460.00
Brook Hollows	£ 9,326.50	(£1,800.00)	£ 7,526.50
Play areas	£20,250.00		£20,250.00
Speed Indicator Device	£11,000.00	(£5,377.00)	£ 5,623.00
Total	£47,676.50	(£7,817.00)	£39,859.50

123. Receipts and payments to 31 October 2025 and draft 2026/27 budget

Resolved **That:**

- The report be noted.
- The council are minded to increase the precept by 5% for 2026/27 and that the final decision will be made at the January 2026 meeting.

124. Sport England funds

See Minute No. 120 above.

125. Flooding

125.1 Environment Agency: October update

Resolved **That:**

- The EA report be received and noted.
- Tom Ellis be thanked for keeping the council updated via his monthly reports.

126. Martyn’s Law

126.1 Rolleston Transport Festival (RTF) 2026

The RFT Committee had formally asked for permission to use The Croft for showing of vehicles and erection of gazebos and the Elizabeth Avenue playing field for visitor parking on Monday 25 May 2026.

Resolved That the request be approved subject to:

- Due consideration being given to the implications of Martyn's Law on the events.
- A risk assessment being undertaken (Health & Safety).
- Adequate Public Liability insurance is in place.
- The sites being litter picked after the event.
- The ground re-instated should there be any damage caused by the event.

Councillors stressed the need for more accurate counting of attendees, stall holders, visitors, etc being necessary in preparation for Martyn's Law being enacted in 2027. Councillor Stewart said that she would be happy to attend the January RTF Committee meeting to discuss this.

127. Correspondence

127.1 Staffordshire Parish Councils’ Association

Bulletins had been circulated to all councillors.

127.2 Staffordshire Parish Councils’ Association: Sponsor a shelf - Staffordshire History Centre

The SPCA had advised that the Staffordshire History Development Trust had launched a “Sponsor a Shelf scheme”. The Trust supports the work of the Staffordshire History Centre and promotes the work of the Archives and Heritage Team. Councils who lodge documentation in the Archives are able to make a donation to sponsor a shelf.

Resolved That a donation of £50 be made to sponsor a shelf in the name of the council.

127.3 Bench in memory of John Carlton

The family of the late John Carlton had written asking if the council would kindly consider allowing a bench to be placed in memory of him on The Croft. Councillors noted that it had previously been agreed that no more benches would be permitted on The Croft. As an alternative location, Councillor Badcock noted that the bench could be accommodated at Brook Hollows.

Resolved That the council reiterated that no more benches would be permitted on The Croft and that applications for plaques only are permitted for installed onto the existing benches. **It was further resolved** that the family be advised of the alternative location on Brook Hollows for a bench to be installed.

127.4 Trent & Dove Housing:

Help us celebrate your unsung heroes – Community Impact Awards 2026

Councillors received details of the launch of Trent & Dove's Community Impact Awards 2026.

Resolved That the information be received without comment.

127.5 Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association (SPCA):

Best Kept Village & Community Awards 2026 Briefings

Councillors received information on the Best Kept Village & Community Awards 2026.

Resolved That the information be received without comment.

128. Exclusion of Press and Public

Resolved That under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (Section 2) (and as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information.

129. Staffordshire County Council:

Consultation No '303' Knowles Hill, Rolleston-on-Dove

It was noted that the above consultation was not open for public comment at this stage and that the council had been contacted as a statutory consultee regarding the above consultation. The council agreed comments to be submitted to the County Council.

130. Jinny Trail path (Minute Nos. 85.8, 102 and 114.1 refer)

Resolved That:

- The council accepts John Deacon's quotation in the sum of £7,775 plus VAT to supply, lay, level, roll and compact Limestone topping 20mm to dust on top of original path on the 2nd section of the Jinny Trail from the steps to the Rolleston/Stretton boundary.
- The council gratefully accepts the grant in the sum of £1,200 awarded by the County Council toward the above of this work.

The meeting closed at 8.27pm

Signed Date

Rolleston on Dove Parish Council
Receipts and payments to 31 December 2025 and draft 2026/27 budget

Nominal Code	Description	Actual to 31/03/2025 £	2025/26 Budget £	2025/26 Projected YE £	Actual to 31/12/2025 £	Draft budget 2026/27 £
100	Income					
1076	Precept	93,041	99,212	99,212	99,212	104,173
1090	Interest Received	938	600	565	444	540
1100	Grants & Donations Received	3,346	1,000	4,700	4,700	-
1110	Council Tax Support Grant	1,665	1,665	1,665	1,665	1,665
1200	Garden rents	125	125	125	125	125
1220	Allotment rents	20	20	20	20	20
1250	Football pitch fees	220	50	260	260	50
1270	SCC: Annual grass cutting	5,875	5,234	5,339	5,339	5,339
1280	Insurance claim settlement	940	-	-	-	-
1999	Other income	3,776	-	875	875	600
	Income	109,945	107,906	112,761	112,640	112,512

5% increase

TBC

Nominal Code	Description	Actual to 31/03/2025 £	2025/26 Budget £	2025/26 Projected YE £	Actual to 31/12/2025 £	Draft budget 2026/27 £
200	Administration					
4000	Staff salary	20,714	21,300	21,970	16,477	22,629
4020	Employer's National Insurance	1,603	2,445	2,544	1,909	2,644
4030	Payroll Services	100	100	100	-	100
4050	Use of Home as Office	178	178	178	134	195
4100	Insurance	1,632	1,632	1,892	1,892	1,892
4110	Audit Fees	810	810	810	185	810
4115	Bank charges	6	55	55	40	51
4120	Photocopier: Rental/Maint.	378	378	378	284	318
4121	Photocopier: Copy charges	480	500	500	273	500
4125	Stationery	276	270	270	117	270
4127	Village Directory	191	200	196	-	200
4130	Postage	789	600	724	724	750
4140	Council mobile	218	260	200	153	200
4150	Subscriptions	884	900	900	713	1,200
4160	Training	220	500	650	240	500
4180	Room hire	240	240	275	-	275
4190	Mileage expenses	245	220	220	174	220
4195	Parking fees	9	12	12	3	10
4200	Play areas R&M	2,781	5,225	5,225	1,938	5,500
4205	Craythorne barrier: Lock/unlock	2,135	2,190	2,190	1,656	2,372
4210	RPC website	499	635	635	63	625
4211	Village website	49	60	79	59	79
4220	IT / Software	382	400	575	575	580
4230	S137 Expenditure	222	100	400	400	100
4240	Mowing contract	16,555	16,255	16,255	12,536	17,000
4250	Bin emptying	4,999	5,250	5,250	3,851	5,476
4260	Trees	5,193	4,000	4,000	1,352	5,000
4265	Plants (troughs, planters)	1,029	1,120	1,396	1,396	2,000
4270	Environmental contract	13,615	13,761	13,761	10,321	13,761
4275	General R&M and Out of Scope works	3,991	5,500	5,500	1,631	5,500
4280	Bus shelter	-	2,000	2,000	2,000	3,422
4285	Flooding	760	2,000	-	-	2,000
4300	Projects	7,323	5,000	-	-	5,000
4310	Professional fees	1,556	5,000	4,000	300	5,000
4320	Capital expenditure	257	800	-	-	800
4330	Other administration	1,767	2,000	1,500	479	2,000
4999	Contingency	4,279	5,000	5,000	150	5,000
	Total Expenditure	94,740	106,896	99,640	62,021	113,979
	Total Income	109,945	107,906	112,761	112,640	112,512
	Net Income/Expenditure	15,205	1,010	13,121	50,619	- 1,467

Based on a 2-bay cantilever with perch seat and timetable case delivered and installed (Knowles Hill)

Earmarked Reserves (EMRs)

Nom. Code	Description	Opening funds 01/04/2025 £	Movement in funds to date £	Available funds 31/12/2025 £
320	Environmental improvements	7,100.00	- 640	6,460.00
322	Brook Hollows (Donor funds)	9,326.50	- 1,800	7,526.50
325	Play Areas	20,250.00	-	20,250.00
329	Speed Indicator Device (SID)	11,000.00	- 5,377	5,623.00
	TOTAL	47,676.50	- 7,677	39,859.50

Funds statement at 31 December 2025

Total funds held in bank accounts	£ 137,258.43
LESS Earmarked Reserves	-£ 39,859.50
LESS Remaining budgeted expenditure	-£ 44,875.00
General Reserves	£ 52,523.93

**Rt Hon Sir Kier Starmer MP,
Prime Minister of the United Kingdom,
10 Downing Street,
London,
SW1A 2AA.**

Dear Prime Minister,

Local Government Reorganisation in Staffordshire

We write collectively as Members of Staffordshire Moorlands District Council and Councillors right across Staffordshire to state our firm and united opposition to the proposed Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Staffordshire.

We respectfully request that the plans for LGR in Staffordshire be withdrawn with immediate effect. Failing this, we ask that you please pause the process and work together with us to fully evaluate whether this reorganisation is truly in the best interests of Staffordshire residents.

To be absolutely clear, Staffordshire Moorlands and Staffordshire did not ask for LGR, and the vast majority of people do not support LGR. This is not a matter of party politics; it is a matter of ensuring the best outcomes for the communities and businesses that we serve. On this issue, we are totally united.

Staffordshire is ambitious, forward-looking, and strongly supportive of genuine devolution, ensuring powers and sustainable funding is transferred from central government to local areas. Support for devolution is consistent across political groups in Staffordshire, however we all support devolution that will bring realistic, tangible, and deliverable benefits to our communities.

Whilst LGR may be appropriate in some areas to support devolution, we do not believe this applies to Staffordshire and Staffordshire Moorlands. Mandatory reorganisation presents a significant and unnecessary risk. It threatens to divert resources, capacity, and leadership away from immediate community priorities and long-term strategic challenges. The current timescales are unrealistic and place essential services at risk. Adding further pressure to already stretched services which our residents rely on is unacceptable.

Community engagement has also highlighted widespread concern. Thousands of residents have expressed anxiety about absorbing Stoke-on-Trent City Council's financial liabilities and losing the local responsiveness provided by existing district-level governance. These concerns are legitimate and must be taken seriously.

Independent analysis and sector experience consistently demonstrate that any potential efficiency savings from reorganisation are likely to be outweighed, or at best neutralised, by substantial upfront costs, which would ultimately fall on local authorities and taxpayers. This is an unjustifiable risk.

For these reasons, we urge the Government to withdraw the requirement for Local Government Reorganisation in Staffordshire. Instead, we invite you to work with us to

deliver a constructive programme of devolution—one that strengthens local democracy, improves service delivery, and delivers tangible benefits for our residents.

We remain committed to working collaboratively on a positive, forward-thinking agenda for Staffordshire and the Staffordshire Moorlands based on partnership, efficiency, and genuine empowerment of local communities.

Yours sincerely,

Signed

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