



BURY PARISH COUNCIL CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Business Plan & Financial Strategy 2024-2028

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BURY PARISH COUNCIL
Business Plan and Financial Strategy 2024 – 2028

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Introduction

This is Bury Parish Council's Business Plan, it sets out the vision, mission, and priorities of the Parish Council for the next four years.

It is the Council's intention to review the Plan annually to ensure it is current and remains a valuable document.



View from Church of the Holy Cross, Bury, Church Tower

The purpose of the Plan

To set out the objectives and plans of the Parish Council, acknowledging the important role of community groups.

To help the Parish Council fulfil its increasing role within the community in response to the reduction in services from other public bodies.

To communicate the Parish Council's vision and plans to the residents.

To provide a basis for the community to become involved in shaping the future of their village.

Mission Statement

Bury Parish Councils mission is to continuously strive to improve, enhance, encourage and promote social and community values, by working with and supporting local organisations, groups, and agencies to provide additional services and facilities to residents.

To create a sustainable community striving to involve and meet the needs of all our residents.

The Plan

- Continuously work to improve information and communication.
- A clean and tidy village.
- Enhance road safety.
- Review public transport opportunities.
- Improve and promote local facilities.
- Encourage community involvement.
- Encourage opportunities for improved Health and Well-being.
- Help promote the use of local shops and businesses.
- Encourage energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

Objectives

This Business Plan and Financial Strategy aims to meet the Parish Council's vision.

We will co-operate and liaise, where appropriate, with outside organisations (such as the Police, Huntingdonshire District Council & Cambridgeshire County Council), residents as well as existing village organisations for the general wellbeing of Bury.

We will endeavour to

- Enhance our role within the community and improve our public profile.
- Improve and develop Parish Council communication with the community through the councils meetings, website, social media and newsletter.
- Enhance the facilities & services available to the community in Bury.
- Further promote local democracy by encouraging more residents to stand for election to the Parish Council.
- Maintain Continuing Professional Development for officers and members of the Council.
- Create a tree maintenance and planting strategy.
- Evaluate the potential of the Parish Sports Field with a view to optimising the benefits to our community.
- Carry forward and promote the recommendations of the Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan
- Maintain conversations with agencies in relation to flood avoidance in order to identify areas at risk of flooding.

The Parish Council will conduct its business by means which are transparent, sustainable, environmentally friendly, and that present the best value in achieving the actions laid out in this Plan.

Summary of Current Activity

The Parish Council does not currently have an office in the village but plan to operate out of the RAF Guardroom Community Hub when completed.

The Parish Council is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of:

- 3 Parish noticeboards
- 1 Telephone box
- Various benches
- Bury Parish Sports Field (off Brookfield Way, Bury)
- Jubilee Playground (off Brookfield Way, Bury)
- Jubilee Play area (zip wire field next to the Jubilee Play area)
- The small grass and tree area known as The Pound
- The Parish Cemetery and closed churchyard
- Christmas lights and the annual event

The Parish Council is responsible for the management of budget and facilities.

The Parish Council is responsible for exercising, as appropriate, 'The General Power of Competence'.

Local Council Award Scheme

The Quality Status and the Local Council Award Scheme is an acknowledgement that the business of the parish council is run in a professional and open manner. Bury Parish Council intends to embrace the Local Council Award Scheme and strive to continue to improve.

Assets

Bury Parish Sports Field – BMX track area, adult gym equipment and basketball hoop.

Jubilee playground and its play equipment.

Jubilee play area and its equipment.

The Pound area, trees and seat.

The Parish cemetery benches and sundial.

The Morelock traffic data logger.

Christmas lights.

Defibrillator (Bury Stores).

Millennium village sign (opposite Bury Stores).

Red telephone box.

Village bus shelters.

Public seats at

Parish cemetery.

Sports field.

Jubilee play areas.

The Pound.

Public bins at

Jubilee play areas.

Parish Sports Field.

The Pound.

Cemetery.

Additional Community Assets

War memorial at the entrance to RAF Upwood.

Who else has responsibility for service delivery in Bury?

Huntingdonshire District Council have responsibility for environmental services such as litter bin emptying, refuse collecting and grass cutting to other public areas and verges (areas such as the grass area on the corner opposite Bury Stores, in front of the Church wall etc), along with the wildflower planting to sections of the High Street.

Cambridgeshire County Council are responsible for our footpaths and highways safety, pothole repairs and gutter drain clearing. Street lighting and public transport, health and social care, library services and more.

Cambridgeshire Police are responsible for anti-social behaviour in partnership with Huntingdonshire District Council.

Raising the Profile of the Parish Council

At present, the parish council's self-promotion is via noticeboards, social media and the council's website. Since 2022 the council has developed the Facebook page "Bury Parish Council, Cambs" and the Bury Parish Council website www.buryparishcouncil.co.uk

The Parish Council has embarked in rolling out its own newsletter since July 2022 which is currently posted to every Bury household, circulated via Facebook and the website. There is also the function to receive the newsletter electronically.

Community Engagement

The Councils Community Engagement Policy confirms Bury Parish Council will endeavour to engage with our community, which includes residents, other local organisations, voluntary groups and partners within the parish, by taking the following actions:

- Will inform, consult and involve others.

- Will engage with local organisations.

- Will ensure it takes into account views expressed by others who wish to improve services, the environment and quality of life for all those who live, work or visit the Parish

Branding

The Council are proud of its services and activities and ensure its 'brand' or logo is clearly seen on all communication whether paper or electronic. The Council logo is very kindly provided by a local artist.



Self-promotion

Councillors can assist raising the profile of the council if they actively promote the Council through their role as representatives on local organisations. The Parish Council is there to represent the community as a whole and councillors are well placed to promote opportunities for the community to advertise their groups and services through the council's social media, their own organisations media as well as other local public media. There is too much reliance or acceptance on 'village drums'.

Bury Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan sets out the vision, objectives and policies to ensure that Bury Village maintains its character, appearance and uniqueness over the period up to 2036. The village has been under significant unplanned development pressure and the Neighbourhood Plan aims to put the local community back in control of how the village develops. The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to protect and enhance the natural and built environment of the village and the wider parish which forms the character of where we live. Having this made Plan also significantly increases our share of Community Infrastructure Levy funds.

Communication streams

Parish Council notice boards.

Minutes on the website.

Newsletter – delivered quarterly to every household in the parish plus available to download online from the council’s website.

Facebook – “Bury Parish Council, Cambs”.

Community Notice Boards

The Community notice boards are located opposite Bury Stores, on the junction of Meadow Lane, in the red telephone box and outside Bury Cakes and Pies on Upwood Road, the noticeboards are freely available to all parishioners to advertise local events.

Our Community

Community resilience is about strong and healthy communities, connected communities.

Community resilience proposes four key characteristics (or dimensions) to becoming more resilient:

- Healthy and engaged people.
- An inclusive culture creating a positive sense of place.
- A localising economy – towards sustainable food, energy, housing etc.
- Strong links to other places and communities.

Using the ethos of Cambridgeshire County Councils document ‘Stronger Together, A strategy for Building Resilient Communities, the Parish Council need to ensure Bury:

- Is a connected community.
- Identify areas which could benefit from improvement or additional facilities.
- Maintain and fulfil a Community Engagement Action Plan & Policy.

Localism

Bury Parish Council employed the services of Cambridgeshire ACRE, to further improve community engagement techniques and rolled out a parish survey in July 2022. The information received from that survey not only helped the Parish Council to decide whether to continue with the Guardroom restoration project but to also look at other areas where the parish could benefit.

The results of that survey have been disseminated via the parish newsletter and fed into this Business Plan.

The Guardroom project is currently the concept design stages whilst we wait for the infrastructure works to commence on the Phase 1 RAF Upwood development of 160 homes. The current situation has seen lengthy delays from the developer with the commencement of development being put back from July 2022. As frustrating as this is, the Council continue to drive forward the project, seeking funding to carry out the works, modelling of the building, reaching out to local groups who have an interest in the facilities on offer and conversation with the Integrated Care System to bring NHS provision to the building.

This is a very exciting time for the village, and we hope to see people coming forward to engage with the Parish Council.

The Parish Council will continue to review the Plan and publish updated information on an annual basis.

Democratic representation

The Parish Council hopes that a greater sense of community will develop through this Business Plan, and the actions arising from it.

It is hoped that this will lead to an increased awareness of the Parish Council's activities and, therefore, will encourage more residents to stand for the Parish Council or join other voluntary community groups.

We would want to encourage youth participation and will consider the options for involving the younger community, including a Youth Council.

Support and training for new Councillors, along with regular drop-in sessions is available via the local organisation CAPALC (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils).

Bury Parish Council already has a close connection with Huntingdonshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council through their contact with the local elected Councillors.

Community Safety

The Parish Council will:

- participate in initiatives that address anti-social behaviour, and continue to work with other authorities (Police, County & District Councils) in reducing crime and the perception of crime.
- seek to deal with the problems such as litter, dog fouling, graffiti etc. by helping to foster a responsible attitude and enhancing a sense of community and good neighbourliness.

Christmas Lights Annual Display

This event is run entirely by volunteers led by a parish councillor on the working group, the Christmas Lights Annual Display in the trees opposite Bury Stores is a popular feature of village life.

The group work throughout the year with a clear action plan servicing equipment, training and erecting the lights, this is overseen by the parish council in line with insurance requirements.

Normally in November there is an organised 'Switch on' event that necessitates the closure of Owls End from Old Stable Walk to its junction with the High Street (B1040). This is for the safety of the children in the choir walking to the switch on from school and the security of the many onlookers.

- Bury School Choir sing Christmas Carols.
- A child is chosen to "flick the special switch" turning the lights on.
- The shop owner of Bury Stores always puts on an amazing spread of food for all.

Volunteers are always needed to help bring this event together.

Bury Village Hall, Brookfield Way, Bury

This facility is maintained and managed by the Bury Residents Charity, it is not owned or managed by the Parish Council.

The hall provides Bury parishioners a safe place to participate in sports for a healthy active lifestyle and social celebrations.

The Jubilee Playground, play area and Bury Parish Sports Field, Brookfield Way, Bury.

The areas are free to use, facilities include:

- Children's play equipment
- Seating.
- A good sized football pitch.
- Adult gym equipment.

There are already plans in progress to improve the BMX track area of the field. The Parish Council purchased the land in April 2023 but rented this space for several years beforehand. A requirement of the sale was to install a sports provision that can be used by all, including the school, and will hopefully consist of:

- A Multi Use Games Accessory (MUGA).
- Ground improvements.
- Larger sports field area.

This installation is to be part funded by Section 106 developer contributions for "offsite sports", from the Rays Close, Crabtree Way (off Buryfield) development and its neighbouring site off Tunkers Lane.

Open spaces

Bury has good open spaces available to encourage healthy activities as well as consider bio-diversity. These open spaces are:

- Bury Parish Sports Field.
- Jubilee Play areas.
- 6 Definitive footpaths which all link in some way to neighbouring parishes Wistow, Upwood, Warboys and Ramsey.

The Parish Council could:

- Create a planting programme to improve the appearance of the village through extensive floral and plant displays.
- Create a tree planting strategy.
- Identify areas where there is a litter problem and work with the community to tidy these black spots.

Creating a Better Environment

The Parish Council has always exercised an interest in retaining good open spaces for residents to enjoy in their leisure time as well as ensuring Bury's built area is clean, tidy and safe for all.

In the quest for this the following areas are either under review or actively in place:

- Parish Sports Field.
- Jubilee Play areas.
- The Pound.
- Phase 1 and 2 RAF Upwood – open space provision.
- Wider grass cutting areas of the village currently maintained by our respective District and County Councils.

Environment and Green Policy

Bury Parish Council is committed to the creation of a sustainable community, balancing and integrating social, economic and environmental components. Developing a more sustainable community will benefit present-day residents and businesses, as well as future generations. The Council have an adopted Environmental policy. Bury Parish Council work in conjunction with the annual Horticultural Show, providing a shield prize for the large and small Best Kept Front Garden in the village.

The Council will work in partnership with others to deliver the policy objectives and specific actions.

The open spaces under the Councils remit are protected by Fields in Trust. Fields in Trust champions and supports our parks and green spaces by protecting them for people to enjoy in perpetuity.

Flood Risk Strategy

Cambridgeshire County Council are the lead authority with regards to flood prevention. With the increasing service withdrawal from principal authorities Bury Parish Council has recently issued to every household an Emergency Planning leaflet.

The Plan includes:

- Getting prepared, emergency first steps.
- Being a good neighbour.
- Coping with an emergency.
- Important telephone numbers.

Allotments

The Allotments Act 1908, section 23 provides that “if allotment authorities are of the opinion that there is a demand for allotments in the parish the council shall provide a sufficient number of allotments to persons resident in the parish and desiring the same”.

The Parish Council intends on providing allotment spaces via the Phase 2 development of RAF Upwood.

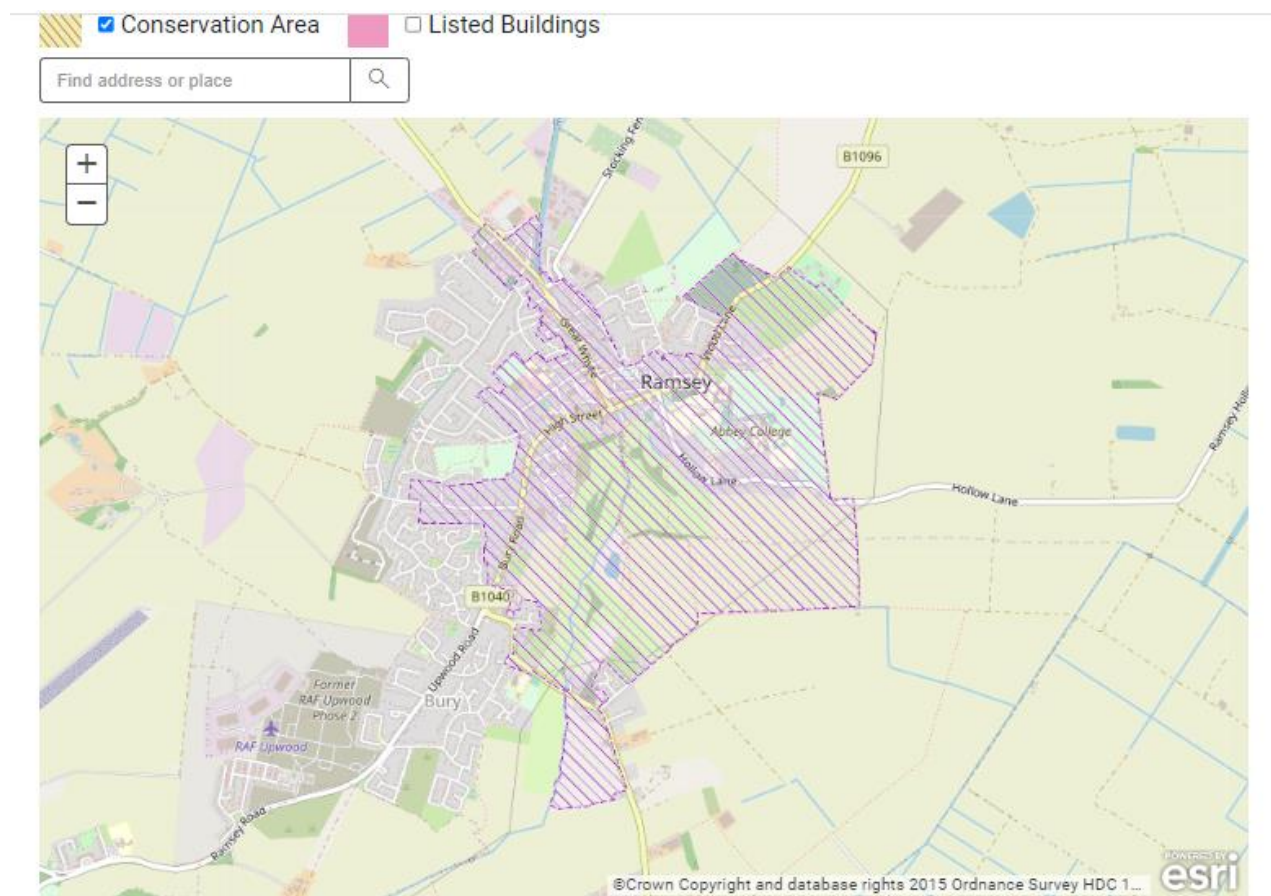
Definitive Footpaths

Definitive footpaths are the responsibility of Cambridgeshire County Council. The County Council Rights of Way Officer representative for Bury works in conjunction with the Parish Council and Local Highways Officer regarding our public rights of way.

It is essential these are kept in good condition and properly signposted.

Conservation Areas

The Conservation Areas are an important part of the character of the village and need to be carefully protected.



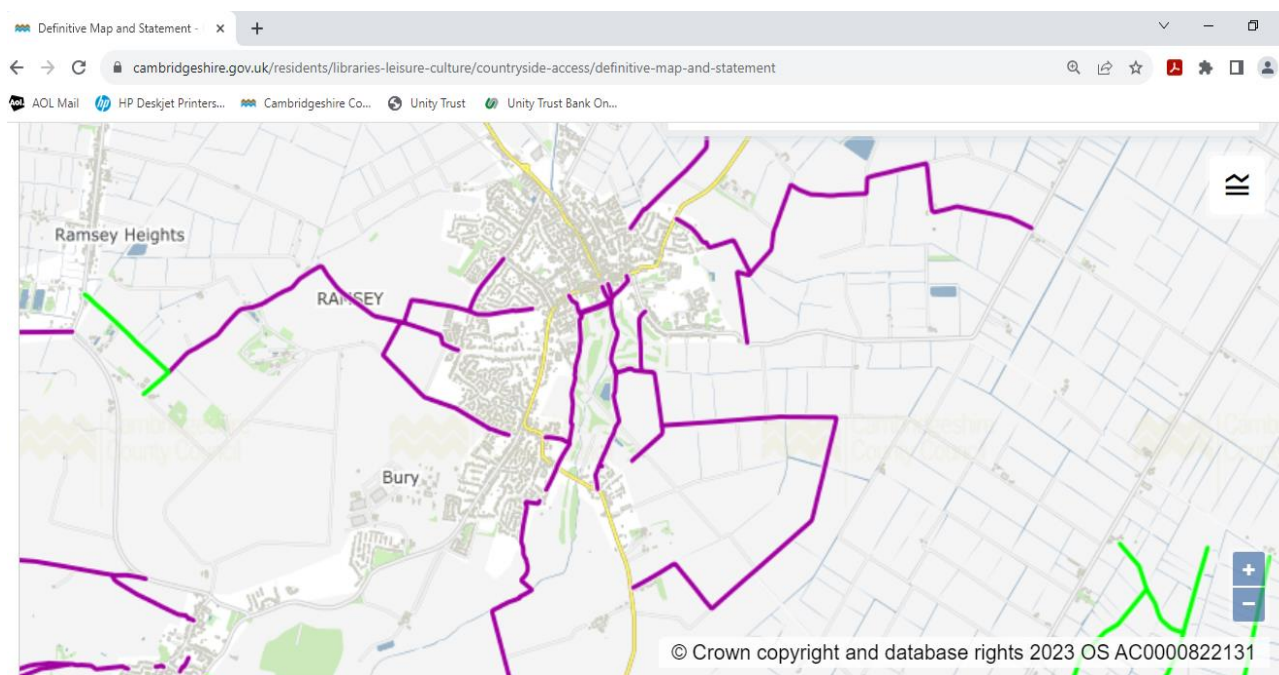
Public Rights of Way

The Definitive Map can be viewed via Cambridgeshire County Councils website, where you can view the public rights of way through our village.

Public rights of way are protected by law.

The Definitive Map is the legal record of all known public rights of way in Cambridgeshire. It is accompanied by the Definitive Statement, which describes the route, position and width where defined of each right of way, as well as any limitations.

- Bury Path Number 1 – Comes to the village via Wistow entering at the far bottom corner of Buryfield and runs along to Brookfield Way, where it becomes:
- Bury Path Number 2 – runs parallel to the Village Hall car park, along the sports field and the bottom of the built-up area of Bury all the way to Ramsey.
- Bury Path Number 3 – Takes you from the top of Meadow Lane through the parish cemetery and on to the golf course where it merges with footpath 5.
- Bury Path Number 4 – Travels from Grenfell Road (rear of No.1) out to the perimeter of the village and round to Biggin Lane, Ramsey
- Bury Path Number 5 – Can be found at the bottom of Meadow Lane, Bury and travels around the golf course perimeter to the Hollow.
- Bury Path Number 6 – Takes a right hand turn at the bottom of Meadow Lane, Bury out to Wistow Fen and back into the village at Milestone Farm where it meets the main road B1040.



Trees

The Council is responsible for several trees across its playing fields and open spaces.

A Tree Audit was carried out in 2019 and the council is carrying out the necessary work identified in the report within the time scales recommended.

The Council is keen to recruit an enthusiastic volunteer Tree Warden, unfortunately due to there being 3 vacant seats on the Council this position is not being fulfilled.

The Tree Officer liaises with the District Council tree officer as well as the County Council Countryside officer.

The Council have been offered the opportunity to acquire the maintenance of more than 500 trees via the RAF Upwood development. The trees will be mature and newly planted and will have a tree strategy plan of their own which will be incorporated into the Parish Council Tree Strategy when the time comes.

War Memorial

A war memorial is located on the main entrance to RAF Upwood. At present it is unknown to the Council who is responsible for the memorial, an owner has not been found. Under the War Memorials (Local Authorities) Act 1923, Chapter 13, a local authority may incur reasonable expenditure in the maintenance, repair, and protection of any war memorial within their district which may be vested in them.

In the past the RAF Upwood owners have asked if they could temporarily remove the memorial for its safety whilst the development works go ahead, they propose to install the memorial to a fitting location within the site. Attempts to locate the memorial owners have been unsuccessful so far and the memorial remains in situ.

Transport

The Parish Council has little direct responsibility for transport and related matters. Therefore, its role is principally one of advocacy in the interest of the village.

Traffic control

The Council recognises residents' concerns about speeding and illegal parking.

The Council support a Speedwatch initiative.

The Council have been successful in their application for a Local Highways Initiative bid for funding towards the installation of a zebra crossing on Upwood Road. It is expected to be installed early 2024.

The Council have submitted an application to the Highways authority to refresh the road markings across the village, the first being the narrow area of the High Street between Bury Stores and The Old School House.

Pedestrians & cycling

The Council wishes to see an increase in walking and cycling and will press for measures to improve the provision of, and environment for, these modes of transport.

Economic Activity & Tourism

Bury has a wide range of facilities which fulfil some of the daily needs of residents and surrounding villages.

Wherever possible, the parish Council will source services and supplies from local businesses. This shall, however, will be tempered by the need for best value.

The Parish Council will work towards a general objective of improving the village economy and tourist facilities in the area. The Guardroom project is expected to attract an element of tourism.

Bury Parish Council

4 Year Financial Strategy 2024-2028

Introduction

The objective of the Council's financial strategy is to structure and manage its finances in support of the Council's Business Plan. Good financial management is essential so that the Council may deliver quality services but also effectively manage public monies. The strategy will help the Council make decisions to ensure that its corporate objectives are met.

Business Plan Framework

The Council's corporate objectives are:

- To ensure that the Council's assets are properly maintained, refurbished or replaced by setting a programme to achieve this.
- To represent the views and wishes of the citizens of Bury and to deliver services that meet local needs.
- To consult with and take due regard of all comments from other statutory bodies, voluntary organisations and individuals, to ensure improvement in the standards of service.
- To enable residents to enjoy quality social, recreational and sporting facilities within the parish.

The Financial Strategy

The financial strategy will provide a framework for the Council's strategic and financial policies and plans to ensure the proactive financial management of the Council. Projecting the financial needs of the Council over the next four years will identify potential problems in advance so that the Council will be able to adapt to any eventuality.

Active risk management plays a pivotal role in ensuring that the Council can adapt to circumstances over which it has no control, but still be able to deliver its corporate objectives. The Financial Strategy contains details of the Council's revenue budget, capital programme and treasury management strategy over the term of the next four financial years, identifying areas of risk and how the Council will manage that risk effectively. As the Strategy requires forward planning over several years, the budget projections are provisional and will be reviewed annually as part of the budget setting process.

Risk Management

The Council, through its system of internal control, has developed a culture of risk management as part of its overall strategic management. The Council aims to identify, quantify and control all risks and put into place arrangements in order to protect the Council and ultimately its stakeholders from the consequences of the risks identified.

Financial Risk Management

The annual budget setting report will detail the most significant financial risks that have been identified as part of the budget setting process and may adversely affect the Council's Financial Strategy. The Strategy has been based on numerous assumptions:

- Inflation rates;
- Interest rates;
- Inflationary pay awards;
- Income generated from fees and charges;
- Potential legal challenges;
- A continued level of service provision.

In developing its capital and revenue budgets and its investment strategy, the Council has considered the financial risks that it faces and has tried to mitigate that risk. The Council has in developing its Strategy:

- Adopted a prudent approach in its financial forecasting.
- Will develop a Reserves and Balances Policy to ensure that the Council has adequate contingent balances so that the Strategy is affordable and deliverable.
- Introduced earmarked reserves to provide a contingency against anticipated future spending requirements.

The Council operates in a sound financial control environment. Member scrutiny is provided through the Council which has responsibility for overseeing and reviewing the effectiveness of the Parish Council's governance framework and system of internal control. It approves the internal auditor's interim reports and plays a key role in budget monitoring in receiving quarterly reports containing year-end projected out turns and an analysis of budget variances. This enables the Council to review on a quarterly basis if it has adequately mitigated risks or whether any further action needs to be taken to ensure that the Council is not adversely affected financially and can deliver its Strategy.

Reserves and Balances

An essential requirement in developing the Council's Strategy is assessing the adequacy of the Council's reserves and balances over the term of the strategy. Section 50 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires that the Council gives due regard to the level of reserves and balances for the forthcoming years and the RFO is required to set a balanced budget.

The General Fund Balance

The General Fund Balance, commonly termed the "working balance", is a balance on the Council's revenue account which is not held for any specific purpose other than to cushion the Council's finances against any unexpected short-term problems in the Council's cash flow. It is the account where all the Council's day to day income and expenditure in the provision of its statutory and discretionary services is recorded.

When projecting the general fund balance consideration has been given to a financial risk assessment, which is carried out annually in line with the Financial Regulations and set out in the annual budget report.

The Council considers managing the risks. The risk of not enough cash to run the Council early in the new financial year; and the risk of holding funds when they are not justified.

Minimum reserves are considered to be in the order of 6 months expenditure net of normal "trading" income. This will get the Parish Council through to the arrival of half of the precept on 30 April and 30 September and overcome any unforeseen circumstances that may arise between the time of the budget setting exercise and receipt of the first half of the precept.

For the financial year 2021-2023 the council has spent an average £56381.00. For the 2023-2024 financial year it was determined that a minimum of £85,000.00 should be maintained as the general fund balance so that the Council may mitigate any financial risks that may materialise within the year. Generally speaking a prudent level of reserves would be no less than 9 to 12 months net spend.

It was recognised early on that to restore the Guardroom would require significant funding. Since 2021 when the offer of the Guardroom was made, the Council set about refining the budget over time to ensure a reserve is built so the Guardroom renovation has a sum allocated in the budget. Any general reserve funds remaining at the end of the financial year are allocated against a capital project such as the Guardroom, MUGA and church wall re-build.

	Actual 2022/2023 £	Estimate 2023/2024 £	Estimate 2024/2025 £	Estimate 2025/2026 £	Estimate 2026/2027 £
General Fund Opening balance	64031	76495	76495	58495	49495
Precept	61200	85000	100000	140000	165000
General Fund Spend	48736	85000	118000	149000	163000
General fund balance carried forward	76495	76495	58495	49495	51495

Expenditure

In the context of the current adverse economic climate the Council must look to minimise the impact upon the taxpayer whilst responding to increasing local needs and priorities.

Efficiency

Efficiency and value for money are the bedrock of the Council's decision-making process. In formulating its budget, the Council through its Finance Working Party, reviews and challenges whether it is delivering value for money. The Council looks to identify savings and efficiencies that can be made without affecting service delivery.

Procurement

Under the Councils adopted Standing Orders, Section 18.e, the Council are not bound by regulations to accept goods at the lowest cost, either the Council, nor a committee or a sub-committee with delegated responsibility for considering tenders, is bound to accept the lowest value tender.

Employee Costs

The Council will review its operational resources on an ongoing basis and look to maintain well controlled employee costs. The Council will also look to optimise the use of its staff throughout the organisation.

Income

The Council does not receive any income other than those charges levied for its burial authority and the precept.

Fees and Charges

The Council considers its scale of fees and charges on an annual basis.

Investment Income

Investment income will be projected in line with an Annual Investment Strategy. The current economic climate is challenging in terms of finding the balance between security and yield. The Council will consult advisers on the most appropriate strategy.

Tax Base & Parish Precepts

The tax base is a figure that is determined by Huntingdonshire District Council annually and is the baseline for setting council tax charges.

In accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) regulations 1992, Huntingdonshire District Council has given Bury village a tax base figure of 782 for 2023-24. This figure is based upon the estimated number of chargeable dwellings, expressed as the equivalent number of Band D dwellings, after allowing for reliefs, discounts, and non- collection.

Precept request for 2023-24 = £85,000.

The Band D equivalent equates to £108.70 per annum, or £9.06 per month or £23.11 per annum increase/ £1.93 per month increase.

In the past the Parish Council has not increased its precept and relied on draining its reserves to balance the books. With the increase in working hours, the costs involved with the BMX Track purchase, the pedestrian crossing installation, church wall re-build and the Guardroom restoration/Hub project the 2022-2023 precept level was significantly increased in order to ease the pressure on reserves and build the precept to a level that the PC can function and retain a level of reserves at the end of the financial year. This then also provides the Council with the ability to apply for funding for its capital projects which requires a level of match funding.

During the setting of the revenue and capital budgets due consideration has been given to the current economic climate. However, consideration has also been given to the need for the Council to increase its reserves and balances being mindful of future capital, revenue and treasury requirements.

	2023/2024	Forecast 2024/2025	Forecast 2025/2026	Forecast 2026/2027
Precept Base rate 782	£85000	£100000	£140000	165000
Increase in Precept	38%	17%	40%	18%
Council Tax on a Band 'D' property	£108.70	£127.88*	£179.03*	£211.00*

* It is expected with the high levels of development the village will see the base rate increase and therefore the cost to the taxpayer will decrease.

With the overriding need to maintain an adequate level of reserves and ensure high standards of service provision, an assumption of a 17% increase in the Precept for the 2024/25 financial year has been made.

Earmarked Reserves

In addition to the general fund, the Council also maintains reserves that are earmarked for a particular purpose. The Council has highlighted future capital expenditure requirements and established earmarked reserves in order to finance the expenditure when it is required. Details of the projected balances on the earmarked reserves are given below. The Council will continue to monitor the adequacy and relevance of its earmarked reserves on an annual basis.

Capital Projects

Earmarked Reserve	Forecast 2023/2024 £	Forecast 2024/2025 £	Forecast 2025/2026 £	Forecast 2026/2027 £
Guardroom	14,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	20,000
Pedestrian Crossing	0.00	37800	0.00	0.00
MUGA	0.00	0.00	0.00	150,000
Church Wall	0.00	0.00	90,000	0.00
TOTAL	14,000	1,537,800	1,590,000	170,000

Developer Contributions

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) allows local planning authorities to raise funds from new development. The money raised is used to fund district-wide and local infrastructure projects that benefit local communities as set out in Section 216 (2) of the Planning Act 2008.

The charges are based on the size and type of development and can be viewed in the Huntingdonshire District Councils CIL Charging Schedule .

Section 106 agreements and planning conditions also continue to be used for local infrastructure requirements on development sites for things such as site-specific local provision of open space, affordable housing, habitat protection and access roads. Section 106 planning obligations are legally binding agreements entered into by persons with an interest in a piece of land (often a developer) secured by a legal agreement or deed. For large scale major developments (200 units or above), further obligations could apply.

The principle is that all eligible developments must pay towards CIL, as well as any site-specific requirement that is secured through Section 106 Agreements. The Developer Contributions Supplementary Planning Document was adopted in December 2011 and sets out Huntingdonshire District Councils policy for collecting Section 106 obligations.

Bury Parish Council expect to be awarded Section 106 funds and CIL funds as detailed in the Capital Projects and Revenue Budget Plan, Appendix A.

Capital Expenditure

The Council's capital programme is attached at Appendix A.

This programme has been developed to include the capital projects that are deemed to be achievable and affordable within the time frame set out. The programme reflects the Council's priorities that have either been highlighted through a risk assessment or are deemed imperative in achieving the strategic objectives as stated in the Council's Business Plan.

The Council has a portfolio, comprising of areas of open spaces, including play areas and a cemetery.

The Council also has items of equipment in its play areas that could benefit from improving. Improvement schemes in turn generate additional long-term repairing obligations, such as the requirement to maintain the play areas and cemetery along with the procurement of land, buildings and MUGA which are hoped to be mostly installed within this Plans timeframe.

Within the scope of this strategy the Council looks to ensure that it has adequate financial resources available to meet its aspirations as laid out in the capital programme.

Estimated Capital Expenditure

	2023/2024 Revised £	2024/2025 Estimate £	2025/2026 Estimate £	2026/2027 Estimate £
Capital Expenditure	14,000	1,537,8.00	1,590,000	170,000

The Council may in future wish to invest in the acquisition of fixed assets in the local area that are seen to bring benefits to the community. No specific schemes have been identified at the present time but they may be considered in the future if preferential circumstances prevail.

Capital Financing

In order to meet its estimated capital expenditure, the Council may use any surplus on the general fund above the required balance to fund capital expenditure. The Council has also established earmarked reserves so that internal funding will be available in future to meet the anticipated capital expenditure.

Funding

The Council will look to source external funding for all suitable capital projects in partnership with other authorities. No funding for the Council's budgeted capital programme has been sourced at the present time.

The Council expect to apply to the Huntingdonshire District Council Community Infrastructure Levy Award in late 2023 to obtain the bulk of the £2.6m required for the Guardroom Project. Other grant monies will be applied for from various sources to make any shortfalls.

Borrowing Strategy

The Council does not currently have any borrowing in place. Depending on the Councils ability to secure Community Infrastructure Levy to fund the Guardroom restoration project the Council may need to consider a Public Works Loan (PWL) application.

From September 2023				As half way point												
Title	2023-2024			2024-2025				2025-2026				2026-2027				
	Opening Balance	Receipts	Spend	Balance	Opening Balance	Receipts	Spend	Balance	Opening Balance	Receipts	Spend	Balance	Opening Balance	Receipts	Spend	Balance
Capital Projects																
Guardroom	94,488.33	79,675.21	13,861.04	160,302.50	160,302.50	2,478,632.17	1,300,000.00	1,338,934.67	1,138,934.67	250,000.00	1,300,000.00	88,934.67	88,934.67	200,000.00	20,000.00	268,934.67
Pedestrian Crossing	49,500.00	0.00		49,500.00	49,500.00		37,800.00	11,700.00	Project complete, balance transferred to BMX Track				If required £11,700 balance transfer to Guardroom			
BMX Track	34,628.49	8,000.00		42,628.49	42,628.49	55,000.00		97,628.49	97,628.49	11,700.00		109,328.49	109,328.49	50,000.00	150,000.00	9,328.49
Church Wall	31,569.06			31,569.06	31,569.06			31,569.06	31,569.06	60,000.00		91,569.06	91,569.06		90,000.00	1,569.06
Cemetery RA Fund (from precept)		280.00		280.00	280.00	280.00		560.00	560.00	500.00		1,060.00	1,060.00	700.00	1,800.00	40.00
Elections Fund (from precept)		200.00		200.00	200.00	200.00		400.00	400.00	200.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	200.00		500.00
Tree RA Fund (from precept)		500.00		500.00	500.00	2,000.00	1,800.00	700.00	700.00	2,000.00		2,700.00	2,700.00	2,000.00	1,800.00	2,900.00
	210,185.88	88,655.21	13,861.04	284,980.05	284,980.05	2,536,112.17	1,339,600.00	1,481,492.22	1,269,792.22	324,400.00	1,300,300.00	293,892.22	293,892.22	252,900.00	263,600.00	283,192.22
Received from	2023-2024			2024-2025				2025-2026				2026-2027				
CIL - Phase 1 RAF Upwood		79675.21				178,632.17										
CIL - Phase 2 RAF Upwood										250,000.00				250,000.00	(50,000.00 to MUGA)	
CIL Award HDC		8,000.00				2,300,000.00										
National Lottery Heritage										60,000.00						
S106 Award - Buryfield		34,628.49														
S106 Award - Tunkers Lane						55,000.00										
S106 Award - Phase 1 RAF Upwood						425,000.00	Ringfenced									
S106 Award - Phse 2 RAF Upwood														800,000.00		
Precept		980.00				2,000.00	Ringfenced			2,700.00				3,000.00		
Bus shelters																
Bus Shelters - Larkfleet x 2																
Bus shelter - David Wilson x 1																
Bus shelters - NFC Homes x 2																
		123,283.70				2,960,632.17				312,700.00				1,402,700.00		

Assumptions available on request