

Shotley Annual Parish Meeting  
24<sup>th</sup> May 2007  
Responsible Financial Officer's Report

1. The Council received, on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 2007, the first instalment of this year's precept and the reserves stand at just over 43K.
2. V.A.T. totalling £1400 was successfully claimed in January.
3. The Asset Register currently stands at 62K, with the recent addition of fixed litter and dog bins, a newly built bus shelter, benches for public use and signs.
4. Due to the wear and tear nature of the Playgrounds, it was agreed by the Council to depreciate both at a combined rate of £5000 per year, which will be held as earmarked reserves, should the areas need replacing in the next ten years.
5. The Parish have completed their first year as an official employer from an Inland Revenue point of view and this has seen an increase in staffing costs of just over 2K.
6. The external audit of the last six financial years has now been completed successfully and the Council are up to date with such matters.
7. The Statement of Accounts for 2006/2007 has also been finalised and signed by the Council. It is now in the hands of the Internal Auditors Heelis and Lodge and will soon be available for perusal by our Parishioners. Dates to be made public in the near future, viewing by appointment with the RFO.