

Maulden Parish Council Finance Report for MPC meeting, September 14, 2026

Almost halfway into the financial year, MPC have spent £29,017.09, which is about a third of the £92,384 budget, well below the average monthly spend of £7,699, and there are no concerns as yet.

MPC have now received the second half of the precept, £46,192.

This means as of yesterday MPC had £100,000 in the Redwood savings account and £111,253.51 in the NatWest, a total of £211,253.51, of which around £50,000 is earmarked reserves for allotments, SIDs and safety, Christmas Lights, Village Hall grant, Pavillion refurbishment, Trilley Fields maintenance and Trilley Fields Play Equipment – it fluctuates as payments are made for Trilley Fields maintenance, and allotment rents are received.

Around half the allotment tenants have paid their rents due by October 1, £1,596.25 has been received of the £1,813.85 expected this year.

The internal auditor has previously expressed concerns over the annual honorariums paid to the Allotment Steward and for the bus shelter cleaning because honorariums are supposed to be one-off payments so an annual payment should not be made as a honorarium, it should either be paid against an invoice where the supplier pays their own tax etc, or the recipient needs to be an employee and paid through PAYE.

This has been resolved for the Allotment Steward by reaching an agreement to reduce their rent as an allotment tenant in recognition of their steward duties. However, I don't know what to do for the bus shelter cleaning as I've never had any contact with the person and understand it's only for the Hall End bus shelter as the Rec Steward clears the brick one opposite the school. I'll speak with Cllr Woodward to see what can be done.

MPC have had confirmation that the signatories have been changed at the NatWest, and they finally decided the Business Account Review wasn't required although we don't know if they have changed MPC's status to being a parish council instead of a parish church.

The External Auditor has said they are working on getting the final AGAR, external auditor's report and completion letter, to councils by the Sept 30 deadline but will let councils know if it will be late. The Exercise Of Public Rights period ended on August 4 with no requests from members of the public to look at MPC's accounts.

Notification has been received from BATPC of the National Joint Council for Local Government Services' agreement on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027. The new pay scales have been circulated.

Does anyone have any questions?

Tracey Bearton

Clerk and responsible financial officer

Maulden Parish Council