

We have received numerous suggestions for the use of CIL monies.

I have anonymised the suggestions and have précised where necessary.

It is important to appreciate that CIL monies can only be allocated to capital projects and typically where the PC owns the asset. The PC owns two assets – the Cricket and the allotments.

This limited ownership therefore discounts and suggestions with respect to the Village Hall and to improvements to the roads, ditches and potholes which are either owned by landowners or Suffolk Highways.

The mount of CIL monies available is:

	Date	£	to be spent by:
CIL received	16/10/2023	11,782.08	14/10/2028
	14/10/2024	18,086.22	13/10/2029
CIL due	01/04/2025	4,175.38	31/03/2030
CIL committed	14/10/2025	1,763.44	13/10/2030
Total CIL available		35,807.12	

Potential projects:

Playground	?
Rattlesden Road allotments	?
Gedding Road allotments	?

Additional grants secured

Locality towards playground maintenance	750.00
Road traffic improvements	3,000.00
Defib contribution	250.00
Total grants awarded in 2024/5	4,000.00

Suggestions:

1. **Playground on the Cricket:-** I look forward to hearing the PC's recommendations at its February Meeting. Do we know what the children in the village really want?

2. **Village Allotments:-** the Trustees should have regard to the limited community benefit from such expenditure and allotment tenants should recognise that, like all parishioners, they are subject to muntjac attacks. They should take the burden as well as the benefit. Rents could be increased but I don't think it's a priority for the PC to incur so much expenditure for a few people.

3. Although the PC's powers appear to be wide, I appreciate that they are circumscribed by national requirements. **Here is my wish list for CIL expenditure:-**

- the provision of mirrors in the Village Hall to help those attending Yoga and Tai Chi Classes, and
 - the provision of an IT Hub in the Village Hall together with training by Equity PC for those who need help in keeping in touch with technological change, and
 - the provision of safety measures to protect pedestrians, dog walkers, horse riders, mothers and children from the criminal actions of speeding drivers on Rattlesden Road, including:-
 - increasing the number of speed cameras,
 - painting 30 mph rounders on the length of Rattlesden Road and SLOW warning signs, and
 - the provision of kerbing on Rattlesden Road to provide safety for pedestrians, prevent further erosion of the verges and to facilitate drainage after flooding.
 - The PC might purchase 30mph wheelie bin stickers for free and ask all parishioners to use them - they do have an effect if everybody does it.
4. Is it worth asking the Village Hall committee whether they have any capital investments they would like to undertake, but do not currently have the funds?
 5. Footpath maintenance and improvement. The footpaths are a notable feature of Drinkstone, well used and good for the health and welfare of villagers. Right now is a good example of their becoming unpleasant and, in places, tricky walking because of mud and uncut trees and bushes.
 6. Flooding - which the County Council has done a bit, but could some of this money improve things further?
 7. Transport, for anyone without a car there is no provision, bar one Dan's bus a week, of transport to Town, or, even, Woolpit or Rattlesden. Maybe there could be seed funding for a solution.
 8. Infrastructure includes things outside the Village which are essential services for the residents. A prime example is the schools which village children attend.

9. In the longer term, the Church graveyard will run out of grave spaces. The Local Government Act 1972 section 214 says that a Parish Council is a Burial Authority. The useable part of the Church's "new" graveyard has been reduced by flood risk- a prepared grave having been swamped last year, necessitating burial elsewhere. There are several years' spaces left, but it will require thinking about in due course.
10. Broader consideration would be appreciated on the following provisions which will benefit a larger proportion of the population.
 - a. Youth and younger Families
 - b. Public Transport
 - c. A Community project
 - d. Improvement to footpaths and outdoor spaces
 - e. Community Event (Gala, Flower show, Fete, Entertainment nights etc etc)
 - f. Further speed reduction initiatives
 - g. Maintenance of ditches, hedgerows and verges
11. Replacement of a broken culvert near All Saints Church

Quantum

All capital projects are expensive and it unlikely that additional CIL monies will be forthcoming – the £35,000 is all that will be available. To indicate how expensive certain initiatives are I have attached a quotation to replace the broken culvert on the Street. The project cost is estimated at £21,000.

Michael Walton

4th February 2025