

GNOSALL PARISH COUNCIL

(including the Wards of Moreton and Knightley)

Value for money

The Parish Council adheres to its Financial Regulations and Standing Orders which are reviewed regularly to take into account changes in the legislation. These reviews are conducted by the Procedures Review Committee in conjunction with the Resources Committee.

Detailed procedures regarding contracts are set out in Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. All committees and officers are required to follow these.

The Clerk ensures, as far as reasonable and practicable, that the best available terms are obtained in respect of each transaction, usually by obtaining three or more quotations or estimates from appropriate suppliers in line with Financial Regulations. Council regularly reviews contracts such as grasscutting and burial ground maintenance, to ensure continued value for money.

The Parish Council frequently purchases items via the central purchasing system ESPO, including stationery, in order to find the cheapest supplier.

Many projects have been successfully completed due to receipt of substantial sums of grant monies, for example the Acres Phases 1 and 2. This saves use of the precept and the subsequent additional burden on local council taxpayers.

Gnosall Festival is held biennially and has been funded by various outside sources, including twice by Awards for All.

The Parish Council has set up separate bank accounts within its main account for Best Kept Village projects, GFest and the Gnosall Heritage Group. This helps ensure transparency and keep monies separate.

Working relationships have been established through membership of Staffordshire Parish Councils' Association and the Society of Local Council Clerks, which then bring links to Councils all over the country to help the Council adopt best practices.

The Parish Council seeks advice from other Local Authority partners in order to link into their skill set for help with larger projects.

The Parish Council is starting to work towards a Strategic Plan and a three-year Forecast Document, which will be updated each year.