

BELPER TOWN COUNCIL**FULL COUNCIL MEETING ON 11 JANUARY 2022****Report Title: PARISH BY-ELECTIONS****Submitted By: Christine Marlow (Responsible Financial Officer)****APPROVAL**

Report for consideration/approval by Full Council – see Agenda Item 9a

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Council has held contested Parish By-Elections this year for which Amber Valley Borough Council have raised the following charges:

- Thursday 6 May 2021 £13,284.50
- Thursday 22 Jul 2021 £11,899.66 **

As these were the only by-elections held on these days, BTC is required to fund 100% of the cost.

The Council will be invoiced for a third by-election which was held on Thursday 16 September – AVBC cannot give an estimated cost until they have received the final costings so the assumption is that the charge will be similar to those above although this may be mitigated by a by-election that was held on the same day at Heanor – if this is the case, the costs would be shared so the charge to BTC could potentially be reduced by 50%.

** AVBC have indicated that an error was made on the polling statement cost of the July by-election so Invoice No 7774122 (£11,039.58) will be cancelled and a revised invoice issued (£11,899.66)

An update has been requested from AVBC's Electoral Services Officer regarding timescales for receipt of the outstanding invoices (July and September by-elections).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Estimated between £ 31,500 and £38,000 depending on whether the cost of the September by-election can be shared.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That, as there is no allowance in the 21/22 Budget, the Council approve virement of £38,000 from General Reserve (current balance £265,394) to a new Budget Code 7802 "By-Elections" to cover the estimated cost of the three elections.
2. That the Council authorise payment of Invoice No 7773178 in the sum of £13,284.50 from the new Budget Code.

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: AVBC Recharge Advice for 6 May 2021

Appendix B: AVBC Invoice 7773178 for 6 May 2021

Appendix C: AVBC Recharge Advice for 22 July 2021 (note - awaiting revised recharge advice)

Appendix D: AVBC Invoice 7774122 for 22 July 2021 (note - awaiting revised invoice)