

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RESOURCES DIRECTOR

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Swavesey Byeways Advisory Committee

13th January 2004

1. The following background notes are provided as a reminder of the present position and as assistance in determining the amount to provide for maintenance.
 - 1.1 The Act provides for an annual charge to be made to chargepayers expressed as a rate per hectare. The charge for 2003-2004 was set at 90 pence. A similar charge for 2004-2005 is estimated to produce an amount of £1,235.
 - 1.2 The cost of collecting the charge in 2004-2005 is £357. The cost can be minimised only if all chargepayers pay promptly and without the need for costly reminders.
 - 1.3 There was a credit of £963 in the chargepayers' account at 31st March 2003. An estimated balance of £497 was taken into account when setting this year's charge – this leaves £466 to set against the 2004-2005 charge.
 - 1.4 There will be an estimated balance of £3,393 in the contingency account at the end of 2003-2004 which is available for any emergency/special works, and it is suggested that £645 be added to the contingency account in 2004-2005.
 - 1.5 It is recommended to provide an amount of £2,400 for maintenance in 2004-2005.
 - 1.6 The budget for 2004-05 would then be:

	£	£
Expenditure		
Maintenance	2,400	
Collection costs	357	
Contingency	<u>645</u>	
		<u>3,402</u>
Income		
Chargepayers		
90 pence per hectare	(1,235)	
Balance in Chargepayers' account	<u>(466)</u>	
		(1,701) 50%
South Cambridgeshire District Council		(1,157) 34%
Swavesey Parish Council		<u>(544) 16%</u>
		<u>(3,402)</u>

- 1.7 The balance on the contingency account has increased in recent years as the maintenance budget has not always needed to be fully utilised and the deferred costs of the Local Act have now been paid. In the event of inclement weather, Members may prefer to keep the rate at 90 pence so that the contingency is available for any emergency/special works.

G. J. Harlock
Finance and Resources Director