

Explanation of 'No' response to statement 9 of Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 and statement 11 of the Accounting Statements 2025/26

The Allotments (and a small parcel of land at Cadders Hill) are areas of land under the Allotment to Former Highways Surveyors Trust 286137 and the recreation Ground is a linked Trust 286137/1

The Parish Council has confirmed that figures in the accounting statements include Trust transactions for the year 2025/26. Grounds Maintenance invoices were received and paid, from the Parish Council account. These invoices included (amongst the other areas in the village) the recreation ground and allotments.

Income from allotment rent was paid into the Parish Council account. Any underspend Income against expenditure (for 2025/26 this was £275) was transferred to the trust account at the end of the financial year.

Whilst separate figures were kept and there is a clear trail in regards to the receipts and payments in respect of the allotments, no allowance was made for expenditure in respect of the recreation ground.

It is acknowledged that the recreation ground does not receive any income other than that allocated by the Parish Council in their annual budget/precept. Allotment rent received is already accounted for in the Trustee account and any budget underspend for the allotments for the financial year is transferred into the Trustee account (as per solicitors advice recorded in minutes 6th December 2023/13).

Moving forward, the Council will ensure that future expenditure in respect of the recreation ground (A separate invoice has been requested for any grounds maintenance in respect of the recreation ground and allotments) and income / expenditure in respect of the allotments is paid into and taken directly from the Trustee account and that any budget allocation for the financial year is paid into the trustee account at the start of the financial year to avoid the need for payments to be taken from the Parish Council account and subsequently transferred, ensuring complete separation of accounts.

The Clerk has contacted Norfolk ALC seeking confirmation that the correct steps are now being taken.

The Parish Council will ensure that separate meetings are held to discuss matters relating to the recreation ground or to the allotments when necessary (a meeting was held on 6th May 2026) and these minutes will be published on the Lyng Parish Council website under the Allotment to Former Highways Surveyors page.

Allotment tenants have paid their allotment rent for period 1st April 2026 – 31st March 2027 directly into the Trustee account. A separate invoice received for grounds maintenance for the allotments / recreation ground has been paid directly from the Trust account.

Following an email to Norfolk ALC seeking further advice / support. the Parish Council will wait for confirmation that the actions agreed / being taken are correct.

This action was approved by the Parish Council and recorded in the minutes of the meeting held 8th April 2026. The Clerk will seek training on managing the Allotment to Former Highways Surveyors account as appropriate.