The overall financial position of Neston Town Council for 2020/21 was an underspend £31,527, we moved £16,152 into Ear Marked Reserves(EMR's) for future spend mainly for Grants(£8,051), Xmas lights(£4,013), Donation (£1,000), CIL(£2,888) & noticeboard (£200), at the same time we spent £8,678 from EMR's on Woodfall park(£5,000), Path at Parkgate allotment(£2,388), New server(£1,290).

As previously reported to this Council in 20/21 Covid has hit the finances hard with loss of income from the Town Hall £11,000, Market £16,124, Service charges & Rent £8,890, relating to this income the full year effect loss could be as high as £23,080. We have also received £20,000 Cheshire West & Chester Council to help us cover shortfalls from Covid but this is a one off sum & along with reductions mentioned above this council needs to keep all expenditure down going forward.

Only necessary expenditure was incurred in 20/21 so we didn't further deplete our General Reserve. The table below shows we have increased the General Reserve for the second time to help stabilise the Council's finances

	£
19/20 General Reserve	93,261
Plus total income for year	357,344
Less expenditure for year	316,980
Less transfers to EMR's	6,694
20/21 General Reserve	126,931

This will clearly help us going forward considering the significant problems the Covid pandemic has had on the Council with increased expenditure and shortfall of both the Town hall rental & Market stalls income in 21/22. We really do need to keep all expenditure down to the very minimum or we will deplete the reserves below the required levels.

TW Godfrey - Finance Manager