# Sheepy Parish Council October Meeting 2026

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| ***Date & Time*** | **Tuesday 6th October 2026 @ 7:30pm** |
| ***Venue*** | Sheepy Memorial Hall |
| ***Attendees:*** | Rob Ward Chair |
| ***Parish Councillors Sheepy*** | Clive Stretton<br>Neal Wood<br>Dennis Beard<br>John Ward<br>Alon Duby |
| ***Parish Councillors Sibson*** | Josh Melen |
| ***Parish Councillor Upton*** | David Clarke |
| ***Parish Councillor Wellsborough*** | Diana Whitley – Vice Chair |
| ***Others*** | 1 parishioner<br>Cllr Brian Sutton<br>Parish Clerk |

**Summary of key decisions/points to note (also see Actions)**

- Archbishop of Canterbury visited the parish
- Defibrillator Training took place in Sheepy Memorial Hall
- New councillor Alon Duby attended his first Parsh Council meeting
- The Parish Chair gave a presentation on the Parish which was very well received at the Parish Forum which was held in Sheepy church

**81/26 Chair's welcome including Parish Council highlights/Good News Stories and to receive apologies and approval of absences.**

Cllr Rob Ward welcomed everyone to the meeting and opened the floor up for good news stories:

Work has now started at the Cock Inn Sibson and there is a new landlord now in place, whilst optimistic they are hoping for an opening date sometime in November. The Parish Council wishes them all the best for their future business endeavours with this historic public house.

The most recent Parish Forum (run by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council) was held in Sheepy Church and included a presentation from the Parish Chair Cllr Rob Ward. This was very well received, and he has been asked to present at the Borough Council's annual parish conference which is also being held at Mythe Farm in March 2027. Also special thanks to Sparkenhoe Farm, Upton who supplied examples of their award-winning cheeses for delegates to sample at the event. Thanks also to assistance provided by Sheepy Church and the use its facilities as well as Cllr Whitley for the homemade cakes.

Dame Sarah Mullaly, the Archbishop of Canterbury recently visited the parish, firstly meeting pupils at Sheepy school and then parishioners during the brunch event in church. Sheepy's bell ringers rang the bells as the archbishop walked down from the School to the Church. This visit was one of a programme of events being held to celebrate Leicester Diocese's centenary.

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The chair also welcomed the new parish councillor to his first Parish Council meeting Cllr Alon Duby will be representing the Sheepy Ward.

Prior to the Parish Council meeting the Leicestershire First Responders held a defibrillator awareness and training session for parishioners (many thanks to Anthony Parkes). Unfortunately, no parishioners were in attendance and it was discussed that maybe a future session could be held in the Black Horse public house or the Cock Inn after its re opening.

The following apologies were reported:

Apologies were received from:
Cllr Kate Gardiner
Cllr Miriam Surtees
Cllr Brian May

All apologies were accepted by the Parish Council.

**82/26 Declarations of interest and request for dispensations –** None Received.

**83/26 Parishioners Open Forum –** The following matters were raised by parishioners or by councillors on parishioner's behalf:

Cllr Diana Whitley reported that the fly tipping in the laybys along with them being used as lavatories has increased and the clean up operation is now becoming time consuming and increasingly hazardous and unpleasant for the parishioners involved. The worst ones to deal with are the lay by in Wellsborough and the one on the A444 between Watery Lane and Harris bridge. **Action** – *Parish Clerk to email Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council to see what can be done.*

A parishioner reported that the road markings on Fenn Lane by the junction with Upton still haven't been replaced and there was a recent RTA in that area – **Action** - *Cllr Josh Melen will report and chase with Highways.*

**84/26 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 4th August 2026**
The minutes were considered and approved.

**85/26 Reports**
***County Councillor*** –
*Cllr Josh Melen had circulated his report prior to the Meeting:*

In respect of County news, there has been a significant shift for plans to reorganise the local government structure in Leicestershire. Following the change in administration, the national government announced on 7th September that the immediate plans for any reorganisation in Leicestershire and thirteen other areas would be put on hold. This news arrived in conjunction with new proposals for a review of the reorganisation process which may ultimately leave residents with the same decision, different boundaries or the project being cancelled altogether.

The reality at a local level is that elections to a new unitary authority will not take place in May 2027 as expected. Instead, the previously planned Borough and City Council elections will take place as had been originally anticipated. This will leave the earliest opportunity for unitary elections as May 2028 and may mean that Borough Councillors elected in May 2027 will only serve one year of a potential four-year term.

I am sure many of you will share my frustration at this latest series of events. A significant volume of financial resources and Officers' time has already been spent on the anticipated shift to a new unitary authority, multiplied not only at the County Council, but the City, Borough and District Councils as well. The situation would be less frustrating if the national government had made an express decision on whether reorganisation will go ahead or not, but the current scenario leaves Councillors limited in future planning while a decision is reached on final proposals, Officers unsure as to their job status, and time-critical work which has already been undertaken moving closer into obsolescence every passing day.

Local government reorganisation has been unpopular in Leicestershire from the outset, and this latest series of events will do nothing to help that reputation. Borough elections in May 2027 will incur an expense to the taxpayer which may be followed by a further unitary election the following year, representing a significant waste of public funds. What residents need at a local level is certainty over the future of the services that they depend on, not a further waste of time, money and resources.

In my role as your County Councillor, I will of course do everything in my control to make your feelings known to the relevant authorities and update you on changes in due course.

*Sheepy Parish*

Sibson/Shenton/Upton car sales, HBBC chased on behalf of Cllr Surtees for update with planning enforcement. HBBC's enforcement notice appealed by site owner in September 2024, planning inspectorate have now rejected the appeal. Enforcement action pending.

Cock Inn- structural works continue ahead of planned November re-opening. Many congratulations to the 'Save our Pub!' Action Group and hardworking community activists for the sustained work over several years towards the re-opening. Interviews given for BBC Leicester and the Telegraph, pub mentioned in print and online with editorial comments in the Telegraph. I will be in attendance on opening day and hope to see Sheepy Parish (and further afield) residents in attendance.

Pinwall junction traffic issues reported by residents and Parish Council, issue passed to LCC. **Awaiting photo evidence from Councillors to pass to Highways before a site visit is undertaken.**

Collapsed culvert on Sheepy Road, Sibson. Reported to LCC environment team for urgent inspection. No response as yet.

Highways contacted following high volume of dust created by Highways resurfacing on A444 north of Twycross, Station Road in Bosworth and Main Road in Sheepy Magna during hot weather. Ongoing complaint due to health concerns as a risk to residents, road laying policy under review.

Concealed entrance signage response received for Sheepy:

*All traffic signs that may be deployed within the highway are governed by a series of nationally prescribed regulations from the Department for Transport (DFT) that are contained within the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions (TSRGD) 2016. Additionally, all warning signs that may be installed onto the public highway are included in DfT Traffic Signs Manual: Chapter 4 – Warning Signs. Leicestershire County Council must strictly adhere to the DFT's guidance when considering additional signage and it is therefore only possible to implement prescribed signs on the public highway.*



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*Unfortunately, there is no prescribed 'concealed entrance' signage included in the aforementioned guidance and we would therefore be unable to implement this signage on Main Street as per your request.*
*Having reviewed this location, there does not appear to be a vehicle entrance situated outside the village hall itself. Therefore, if there are any specific ongoing road safety concerns with this location, please do let us know and we will be more than happy to conduct an individual assessment into this matter.*

***Borough Councillors -***
Cllr Brian Sutton gave the following update:
The major fly tipping that has occurred at the new crematorium site in Hinckley has now been removed. This was a major operation which has cost the Borough Council a significant amount of money due to the size and nature of the waste dumped at the site.

Devolution has now been put on hold and it is unsure what lies ahead for the future of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

A new planning system is now in place which give planning officers more powers with fewer applications now being considered by the Planning Committee.

**87/26 Parish Council**

**Planning Policy** – The Parish Clerk circulated the policy before the meeting and the Parish Council had no amendments and therefore the policy was approved. **Action** – *Parish Clerk to update and place on Parish website*

**Employee Appriasal Policy**– The Parish Clerk circulated he policy before the meeting and the Parish Council had no amendments and therefore the policy was approved **Action** – *Parish Clerk to update and place on Parish website.*

**.Gov.UK –** The website provider has started moving the data from the website over to the .gov.uk website. They have also started to contact parish councillors about the migration of the emails, he will be starting with the two biggest accounts the Parish Clerk and the Parish Chair.

***88/26 Parish Initiatives***
**Road Safety Steering Group/CSW –** Cllr Neal Wood circulated the report prior to the Parish Council meeting. He also stated that the group have altered the mVAS outside of the school which will now flash if anyone goes over 20mph during the school pick up and drop off times.

The Parish Council website will also need to reflect the activities of the RSSG, this is so parishioners can contribute/attend if they wish. **Action** – *Parish Clerk to add all of the information supplied by the RSSG onto the website inc agenda, TOR, minutes and dates times of next meetings etc. RSSG to ensure all material is submitted to the Clerk as per the TOR.*

**Village Signs –** All of the signs have now been completed apart from the one in Sheepy Magna which has had more repairs carried out than originally envisaged, hopefully this will be completed before the next Parish Council meeting. The feedback on the signs that have been replaced has been very positive.

**Asset Maintenance –** The Parish Clerk circulated the quotation from the contractor to carry out the asset maintenance works. The Parish Councillors asked for the following points to be considered.

- Can the dog bins be quoted as a bigger size as the one by the school seems to be filling up quite quickly
- With regards the church wall the church warden will need to be contacted to see if a Church Faculty (approval) needs to be considered due to the location of the works.

**Action –** *Parish Clerk to contact the Church Warden and the asset maintenance contractor*

**Neighbourhood Plan –** The following update was given.

Sheepy Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group update since the Parish Council Meeting 1st September 2026.

- The Draft Newsletter has been completed and circulated to Parish Councillors for approval at the Parish Council Meeting Tuesday 6th October 2026. Councillors unanimously approved the newsletter.
- Following Parish Council approval, the Newsletter to be printed and distributed to all households in the parish.
- The final version of the Questionnaire has also been circulated to councillors for their approval. Councillors unanimously approved the questionnaire.
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- The intention is for the online version of the Questionnaire to 'go live' just prior to the delivery of the Newsletter.
- The Steering Group have also prepared 'Settlement Specific' paper versions of the Questionnaire. (The On-line version automatically navigates to the appropriate settlement and relevant questions). As mentioned in the Newsletter, anyone requiring a Paper Copy of the Questionnaire can contact the Parish Clerk and a member of the Steering Group will organise the delivery and collection.
- It is expected that the Questionnaire consultation period will be approximately 4 weeks (to end of November).
- Following the Questionnaire consultation period, the data will be analysed which will be used to inform the updated Neighbourhood Plan and its policies.

**Cock Inn** –Work has started at the Public House with a view to an opening before Christmas. The Parish Clerk confirmed the ACV has been re submitted as requested.

**89/26 Finance**
**Expenditure – all items noted and approved.**

Table 1: Expenditure for September 2026

| Date | Method | Payee | Details | Total | VAT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 01/10/2026 | SO | Haines Watts | Payroll | £31.20 | £5.20 |
| 06/10/2026 | BT | Clerk | Wages | £551.25 | £0 |
| 06/10/2026 | BT | HMRC | Income Tax | £367.20 | £0 |
| 28/10/2026 | SO | NPower | Street Lights | £97.81 | £3.04 |
| 06/10/2026 | BT | LG Services | Grass Cutting | £910.75 | £0 |

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| 06/10/2026 | BT | Moores | External Audit | £283.50 | £47.25 |
| 06/10/2026 | BT | HBBC | Dog Bins | £357.24 | £59.54 |
| 06/10/2026 | BT | KP Carpentry | Village Signs | £2460 | £0 |
| 06/10/2026 | BT | EON | Street Lights | £110.40 | £6.00 |
| 06/10/2026 | BT | Amazon | NP Phone | £28.99 | £0 |

**Bank Balances –** As of 30th September 2026 the Parish council bank balances were:
Current Account £37,610.24
Savings Account £32,410.33 (£1,692.80 History Society)

**Bank reconciliation up to 30th September 2026**– See Annex 2
**Spend against budget up to 30th September 2026** – See Annex 3

**Asset Maintenance Quote** – The Parish Council discussed this matter under minute item 88/26

**Warranty extension –** Prior to the meeting the Parish Clerk circulated a quote for the warranty extension for the Parish Councils mVAS signs. This was discussed between the parish councillors, and it was agreed to defer until November's meeting as a decision is not needed until January.

**90/26 Planning applications & updates** *(see HBBC Planning website for full details)*
See Annex 1 for Parish Council Draft/Approved Responses.

**Enforcement/Appeals**

- Car Sales Shenton – Update from Cllr Miriam Surtees (prior to the meeting) there is a 6-month colling off period for a business to wind down. As the notice was served on 6th May the enforcement team will not get involved until after 6th November.

**91/26 General correspondence** (emailed to Councillors)

- Round Robin
- Parish Forum – Presentation from the Parish Chair was very well received and the presentation will be circulated.
- Chief Constable evening – Cllr Neal Wood did not attend so no feedback available.
- Reg 19 consultation – The Parish Council submitted a response to this consultation.

**92/26 Matters to note/add to a future agenda.**
*Budget 2027 2028 – initial discussions on activities and priorities*
*Christmas trees*
*Christmas decorations/lights*
*Warranty extension (mVAS)*

**93/26 Actions from meeting**

| Action Ref | Action | Owner | Due Date |
|---|---|---|---|

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|---|---|---|---|
| 83/26 | *Parish Clerk to email Hinckley and Bosowrth Borough Council to see what can be done.* | Parish Clerk | ASAP |
| 87/26 | *Parish Clerk to update and place on Parish website.* | Parish Clerk | ASAP |
| 87/26 | *Parish Clerk to update and place on Parish website.* | Parish Clerk | ASAP |
| 88/26 | *Parish Clerk to add all of the information supplied by the RSSG onto the website inc agenda, TOR, minutes and dates times of next meetings etc.* | Parish Clerk/Cllr Neal Wood | ASAP |
| 88/26 | *Parish Clerk to contact the Church Warden and the asset maintenance contractor.* | Parish Clerk | ASAP |

**94/26 Outstanding actions from previous meetings**

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| *34/25* | RSSG to program the MVAS near the school (road safety zone) to be set to 20 miles an hour setting during school pick up and drop off. **(this was reported as completed at October 2026 meeting, however it was shown still showing 30mph)** | RSSG | *ASAP* |
| 73/26 | Cllr Neal Wood to instruct the RSSG to update the road safety briefing note | Cllr Neal Wood | Next Meeting |
| 70/26 | Cllr Josh Melen will report and chase with Highways.(road markings at Upton Junction) | Cllr Josh Melen | ASAP |

**Meeting closed at 8:55pm.**

**Date of next meeting***: Tuesday 3rd November Sibson Village Hall (7.30pm)*

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***Annex 1. Sheepy Parish Council Planning Application Responses***

| ***Application Details, Date received and Location*** | ***PC Response Draft or Approved*** |
|---|---|
| *26/00805/CLE - 18 September 2026*<br>*Mythe Farm Pinwall Lane Pinwall*<br>*Certificate of existing lawful development relating to the use of a building as a repair and restoration workshop for classic vehicles (Use Class B2) including associated operational development and storage of vehicles.* | ***Sheepy Parish Council draft response circulated all councillors and not yet approved or submitted to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council***<br><br>*NEUTRAL*<br>*Please note, this response is based on documents available on HBBC Planning Portal as at 29th September 2026. Sheepy Parish Council kindly request that it is notified and consulted on any later changes to this application so as to ensure full compliance with the Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan made May 2022.*<br><br>*Sheepy Parish Council has reviewed the above application 26/00805/CLE (Mythe Farm Pinwall Lane Pinwall, Certificate of existing lawful development relating to the use of a building as a repair and restoration workshop for classic vehicles (Use Class B2) including associated operational development and storage of vehicles.) and it appears to be in line with the policies, which should be considered collectively, in the Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan made May 2023 and notably Policy S17- Rural Economy.*<br><br>*However, Sheepy Parish Council notes that the above is subject to an Enforcement Investigation HBBC Reference 16.07.2026 26/00193/UNUSES - Unauthorised change of use of the land for a car repairs business.*<br><br>*Sheepy Parish Council further notes the information/evidence supplied by the applicant in the Planning Statement and therefore will respect HBBC's wider planning regulation/enforcement knowledge, not necessarily known by Sheepy Parish Council, on this matter. END* |
| *26/00817/CONDIT - 23 September 2026*<br>*Byrons Covert Bosworth Road Wellsborough*<br>*Application to vary condition 2 of planning permission 25/01110/HOU. To allow for an amended and simplified design and to substitute the approved drawings.* | ***Sheepy Parish Council draft response circulated all councillors and not yet approved or submitted to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council***<br>*NEUTRAL*<br>*Please note this response is based on documents available on HBBC Planning Portal as at 30th September 2026. Sheepy Parish Council kindly request that it is notified and consulted on any later changes to this application so as to ensure full compliance with the Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan made May 2022.*<br><br>*Sheepy Parish Council has reviewed the above application 26/00817/CONDIT- (Byrons Covert Bosworth Road Wellsborough- Application to vary condition 2 of planning permission 25/01110/HOU, to allow for an amended and simplified design and to substitute the approved drawings). It notes the amendments made to Proposed Elevations and Plans - Drg No. 25 93 07G - received by the Local Planning Authority on 24/03/26 (Condition 2 – Decision Notice for 25/01110/HOU -23 July 2026) to produce Proposed Scheme 08 - Drg No. 25 93 15D supplied by the applicant for 26/00817/CONDIT. This appears to be in line with the policies, which should be considered collectively, in the Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan made May 2022.*<br><br>*Nevertheless, Sheepy Parish Council request that Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council gives consideration to ensure the application complies with the Sheepy Parish Neighbourhood Plan, made May 2022, design guidance in the Design Guide (Appendix 5). END* |

*ANNEX 2 Bank Reconciliation*

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|---|---|---|---|
| | **Bank Reconciliation at 30th September 2026** | | |
| | **Cash in hand 1st April 2026**<br>(per Cash Book) | | |
| | Current Account | | 32,456.22 |
| | Deposit Account | | 32,095.77 |
| | | | 64,551.99 |
| | **ADD** | | |
| | RECEIPTS 1/4/2026 - 30/09/2026<br>(per Cash Book) | | 35,314.56 |
| | (per Cash Book) inc Sheepy History Society Ringed funds £1692.80 | | 99,866.55 |
| | **LESS** | | |
| | Payments 1/4/2026 - 30/09/2026 | 29845.98 | |
| **A** | **Cash in hand 30/09/2026**<br>(per Cash Book) | | 70,020.57 |
| | Cash in hand per Bank Statements – 30/09/2026 | | |
| | Current Account | 37,610.24 | |
| | Deposit Account | 32,410.33 | |
| | | 70,020.57 | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 70,020.57 |
| | Add Receipts in Cash Book not banked at 30/09/2026 | | |
| **B** | **Adjusted Bank Balance at 30/09/2026** | | 70,020.57 |
| | **NOTE** | | |
| | **A must equal B** | | |

*ANNEX 3 Spend against Budget*

## Sheepy Parish Council
## Budget planning and monitoring
## 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027

| | | BUDGET 2026/27 | | Spend to date (30/09/2026) | % spend |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | ACTUAL | |
| **1** | **Carry Forward from 2025/26** | | | | |
| 1.1 | Reserve (deposit account) | £25,300 | | £32,095.00 | |
| 1.2 | Budget carry forward (current a/c) | £30,069 | | £32,456.00 | |
| 1.2.1 | Grant income | £0.00 | | | |
| 1.2.2 | Non-specified | £0.00 | | | |
| | **TOTAL** | **£55,369.00** | | **£64,551.00** | |
| | | | | | |
| **2** | **Income** | | | | |
| 2.1 | Precept | £35,000.00 | | £17,500.00 | |
| 2.2 | VAT Refund | £1,000.00 | | £0.00 | |
| 2.3 | Interest (Current and deposit a/c) | £300.00 | | £156.04 | |
| 2.4 | Grant funding | | | | |
| 2.4.1 | PCIF | £0.00 | | £0.00 | |
| 2.4.2 | Neighbourhood Plan | £0.00 | | £0.00 | |
| 2.5 | MHF | £0.00 | | £0.00 | |
| 2.6 | Shire Grant | £0.00 | | £0.00 | |
| | **TOTAL** | **£91,669.00** | | **£82,207.04** | |
| **2.7** | **Sheepy History Society (Ring Fenced)** | | | **£1,692.80** | |
| **3** | **Expenditure - mandatory commitments** | | | | |
| 3.2 | Clerks Salary and expenses | £7,000.00 | | £2,756.00 | 39.37% |
| 3.3 | Insurance | £2,500.00 | | £1,226.00 | 49.04% |
| 3.4 | Income Tax | £4,000.00 | | £1,836.00 | 45.90% |
| 3.5 | VAT | £2,000.00 | | £1,753.00 | 87.65% |
| 3.6 | Audit | £750.00 | | £0.00 | 0.00% |

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| 3.7 | Admin | £2,000.00 | | £1,511.00 | 75.55% |
| 3.8 | Training (Clerk and councillor) | £1,000.00 | | £429.00 | 42.90% |
| 3.9 | Website and comms | £300.00 | | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 3.10 | Meeting room hire | £350.00 | | £135.00 | 38.57% |
| 3.11 | Waste bins (dog and litter) | £2,000.00 | | £595.00 | 29.75% |
| 3.12 | Ground maintenance contract | £7,000.00 | | £4,815.00 | 68.79% |
| 3.13 | Asset management (lights/noticeboards) | £5,000.00 | | £746.00 | 14.92% |
| 3.14 | Consultants (planning advice) | £1,500.00 | | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 3.15 | Street Lighting | £2,200.00 | | £434.00 | 19.73% |
| 3.16 | Neighbourhood Plan | £7,000.00 | | £2,817.00 | 40.24% |
| 3.17 | Misc | £2,000.00 | | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| | **TOTAL** | **£46,600.00** | | **£19,053.00** | **40.89%** |
| | | | | | |
| **4** | **Expenditure - non mandatory commitments** | | | | |
| 4.1 | Community grants and donations | | | | |
| 4.1.1 | Miscellaneous Donations | £2,500.00 | | £4,010.00 | 160.40% |
| 4.2 | Road safety | £0.00 | | £0.00 | NA |
| 4.3 | Xmas Lights | £2,000.00 | | £0.00 | NA |
| 4.4 | Bus Stop | £2,000.00 | | £0.00 | NA |
| 4.5 | Flooding Equip | £1,000.00 | | £0.00 | NA |
| 4.6 | Elections | £4,000.00 | | £0.00 | NA |
| 4.7 | Defribrillator and upkeep (inc training) | £1,000.00 | | £2,385.00 | 238.50% |
| 4.8 | Dog Bin Refurbishment | £0.00 | | £0.00 | #DIV/0! |
| 4.9 | Planters | £1,000.00 | | £0.00 | NA |
| 4.10 | Sustainability | £0.00 | | £0.00 | NA |
| 4.11 | Newsletter | £1,000.00 | | £0.00 | 0.00% |
| 4.12 | Interpretation Signs & Noticeboards | £1,500.00 | | £0.00 | NA |
| | **TOTAL** | **£16,000.00** | | **£6,395.00** | **39.97%** |
| | | | | *Total YTD* | |
| | **TOTAL SPEND** | **£62,600.00** | | **£25,448.00** | |
| | | | | | |
| | **OVERALL BALANCE** | **£29,069.00** | | **£56,759.04** | |
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| | | | | | |