

The “Land Grab” issue, because of COVID and NCC internal delays, had been undecided for over 3 years and cast a shadow over HPC finances. It was decided to be extra-prudent in its spending until the outcome was known. We set up a Task and Finish Group on Finance to oversee this.

The outcome of the Community Governance Review, decided in January 2021, was that South Fields is to remain in Hepscoth, whilst Stobhill Manor Hepscoth will move to MTC, we believe in October 2024.

In the light of this decision the Task and Finish Group recommended that HPC could increase its spending on services across the Parish. Specifically it recommended that HPC should fund appropriate measures that make South Fields more of a part of Hepscoth Parish and bring the Parish together; communication with SF residents over this was very important.

Other recommendations were to help groups looking to improve the Parish and who needed some financial help; to update and improve communication with Parish residents; to provide some financial assistance for professional advice to HPC; to discuss with the Parish Hall Committee the changing demography of the Parish. We therefore expect reserves held because of extra prudence to diminish rapidly.