

## **Agenda item 240e**

### **To approve the Clerk's recommendation, change the accounting software provider from Xero to Scribe**

The two most popular accounting software providers for Councils are [Rialtas Business Solutions](#) (RBS) and [Scribe accounting](#).

The Council's current accounting package, Xero has its benefits but it does not cater for the specific requirements for local councils. Support from Xero is either by submitting an online request or a pre-arranged phone call. The feedback I have received regarding support for both Rialtas and Scribe is that they are extremely helpful and understand the sector.

My reason for recommending Scribe is they offer a web-based accounting package and the training, which includes webinars is all inclusive.

Scribe has said *"Just so you know at this time of year if the council do decide you can go ahead as of April, I can still look to get you set up and booked in for training ahead of the new financial year and you're welcome to make payment in the new financial year."*

The cost is £468.00 per annum. We are currently paying £24.00 (exclusive of V.A.T.) per month for the Xero accounting package.

Feedback received from other Parish Clerks / RFO's:

- I use Scribe on my PC and iPad and it's great. Taken the hassle out of the accounts. The support from scribe is amazing to.
- I really like it. Straight forward and super support from them if you get stuck on anything 😊
- Scribe is brilliant. Buy it!
- I've only been in the role about eleven months, no previous experience, the thing that gave me the fear most was accounting, and scribe made it so much easier, especially for interrogation and reporting functions.
- It's great with excellent support. We're looking at the scribe cemetery package also!
- I use Scribe and find it really useful and simple to use.
- I use scribe for 4 pcs and highly recommend it. Easy to use and helpful staff.

Please have a look at this video: <https://www.scribeaccounts.com/blog/scribe-for-councillors>

Although this cost has not been budgeted for it will improve the scope of reporting available for the Council. The Council can also include in its Risk Management scheme register the facility available for Councillors to sign in and view transactions. Different levels for users are available.