

Briefing Note

The Parish Precept for 2022/2023

1.0 Background

At their public meeting on 18 November 2021, councillors voted to approve the parish council budget for 2022/2023 and to set a higher precept (local council tax) than charged previously. This note explains what the council’s budget for next year is and sets out how it manages residents’ tax receipts.

2.0 The budget

The table below analyses net income and expenditure for 2020/21, best estimates for 2021/22 and a budget for 2022/2023 for the parish council.

		Actual 2020-21	Budget 2021-22	Actual 2021-22*	Budget 2022-23
		£	£		
Net Expenditure					
1.00	Open spaces				
	1.1 Grasscutting	1125.00	2000.00	2000.00	2320.00
	1.2 Strimming	450.00	375.00	375.00	0.00
	1.3 Weed spraying	63.00	125.00	125.00	1100.00
	1.4 Other expenses	2735.00	1170.00	3500.00	2945.00
	sub total	4373.00	3670.00	6000.00	6365.00
2.00	General Administration				
	2.1 Salaries	9325.00	8613.00	8613.00	8745.00
	2.2 Audit fees	400.00	400.00	202.00	400.00
	2.3 Other expenses	28737.00	4018.00	8260.00	4453.00
	2.4 Fees & elections	0.00	810.00	0.00	0.00
	sub total	38462.00	13841.00	17075.00	13598.00
3.00	Allotments				
	3.1 Rent	2.00	80.00	80.00	80.00
	3.2 Maintenance	205.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	sub total Expenditure	207.00	180.00	180.00	180.00
4.00	Public toilets				
	4.1 Cleaner	2433.00	2766.00	2766.00	2850.00
	4.2 Maintenance	236.00	395.00	150.00	395.00
	4.3 Water	124.00	400.00	200.00	200.00
	sub total Expenditure	2793.00	3561.00	3116.00	3445.00
5.00	Public lighting				
	5.1 Electricity	352.00	350.00	350.00	520.00
	5.2 Maintenance	162.00	125.00	125.00	162.00
	sub total	514.00	475.00	475.00	682.00
6.00	Donations				
	6.1 Donations	3581.00	500.00	300.00	500.00
	6.2 Grants	4650.00	0.00	2030.00	0.00
	sub total	8231.00	500.00	2330.00	500.00
6E	Neighbourhood Plan				
	6E1 Projects	5034.00	0.00	60.00	
	sub total	5034.00	0.00		
	TOTAL	59614.00	22227.00	29176.00	24770.00
* best estimate at the time of preparation					

			Actual 2020-21	Budget 2021-22	Actual 2021-22*	Budget 2022-23
Gross Income			£			
7.00	Statutory & Discretionary					
	7.1	Council precept	22059.00	20383.00	20383.00	22816.00
	7.2	CTS Grant	594.00	300.00	542.00	400.00
	7.3	Allotment rentals	441.00	265.00	265.00	265.00
	7.4	Parish paths grantsn LMP	743.00	728.00	728.00	728.00
	7.5	Grants	4211.00	0.00	692.00	0.00
	7.6	Fees & Other Income	35.00	61.00	5.00	61.00
	7.7	Bank interest	490.00	490.00	400.00	500.00
	7.8	Miscellaneous	35355.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	7.9	From General Reserve			8000.00	
	TOTAL		63928.00	22227.00	31015.00	24770.00

3.0 Council's cash reserves

Cash holdings at 31 March 2021 were £89,633.48.

In September 2018, the parish council transferred £60,000 to a high interest account that is managed by Cornwall Council. This was increased by a further £25,000 in September 2020 following receipt of a central government grant of £10,000. The reason for doing this was so that the surplus funds held by the parish council could be held in a secure and risk-free deposit facility that would earn a higher rate of interest than that currently available from the commercial sector.

The precept for 2022/2023 has been agreed at £22,0816. This is an increase of £2433 or 11% compared to the precept for 2021/22. The annual cost to a Band D property is an increase from £32.70 in the current year to £34.85.

4.0 How the council uses your money

The current year has continued to challenge the Parish Council to maintain its levels of governance and accountability. In spite of this, councillors have continued to hold public meetings and to engage with residents remotely, in-real-life, via social media and five newly installed parish notice boards. The Neighbourhood Development Plan is expected to go to referendum sometime in the new year and there will be projects arising from the consultation that may be taken forward in 2022/23.

Details of any proposals will be discussed and where appropriate, agreed at the public meeting. Visit www.menheniotparishhouncil.org.uk to download a calendar of meetings and updates of the forward plan.

The parish council owns and maintains two open spaces which are freely available to residents and visitors: the playing field (Menheniot village) and the recreation area at Merrymeet. It also owns a community garden on Trelawney Road (maintained by local residents). In addition to its financial support for volunteering groups in the parish, the council owns and maintains the public toilets in Menheniot village, the bus shelters in Menheniot, Merrymeet and on the A38 by The Hayloft as well as carrying out other grass cutting, footpath maintenance and weed killing.

Author : John Hesketh, Parish Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer

Date: 22 November 2021