

# Briefing Note

## How the parish council spends your money 2024/2025

2 min read

### 1.0 Background

At their public meeting on 16 November 2023, councillors voted to approve the parish council budget for 2024/2025 and at their later meeting on 14 December 2023, to set a precept (local council tax) that will be charged out to residents in the coming year. 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 2022/23, best estimates for 2023/24 and a budget for 2024/2025 for the parish council.

		Actual 2022-23	Budget 2023-24	Actual 2023-24*	Budget 2024-25
<b>Net Expenditure</b>		£			
1.00	<b>Open spaces</b>				
	1.1 Grasscutting	7305.00	5952.00	5952.00	5952.00
	1.2 Strimming	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1.3 Weed spraying	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	1.4 Other expenses	4518.00	5300.00	3945.00	4975.00
	1.5 Menheniot Green	694.00			
	sub total	12517.00	11252.00	9897.00	10927.00
2.00	<b>General Administration</b>				
	2.1 Salaries	9777.00	9867.00	8613.00	10704.00
	2.2 Audit fees	400.00	400.00	400.00	410.00
	2.3 Other expenses	5656.00	4132.38	4453.00	4130.00
	2.4 Fees & elections	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	sub total	15833.00	14399.38	13466.00	15244.00
3.00	<b>Allotments</b>				
	3.1 Rent	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00
	3.2 Maintenance	403.00	100.00	100.00	400.00
	sub total Expenditure	483.00	180.00	180.00	480.00
4.00	<b>Public toilets</b>				
	4.1 Cleaner	2518.00	3150.00	2766.00	3348.00
	4.2 Maintenance	189.00	395.00	150.00	195.00
	4.3 Water	693.00	400.00	200.00	200.00
	sub total Expenditure	3400.00	3945.00	3116.00	3743.00
5.00	<b>Public lighting</b>				
	5.1 Electricity	183.00	0.00	183.00	0.00
	5.2 Maintenance	41.00	0.00	41.00	0.00
	sub total	224.00	0.00	224.00	0.00
6.00	<b>Donations</b>				
	6.1 Donations	456.00	500.00	300.00	500.00
	6.2 Grants	1700.00	0.00	2030.00	0.00
	sub total	2156.00	500.00	2330.00	500.00
01579	<b>Neighbourhood Plan</b>				
	6E1 Projects	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
	sub total	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34613.00</b>	<b>30276.38</b>	<b>29213.00</b>	<b>30894.00</b>

\* best estimate at the time of preparation

		Actual 2022-23	Budget 2022-23	Actual 2022-23*	Budget 2024-25
<b>Gross Income</b>		£			
<b>7.00</b>	<b>Stutory &amp; Discretionary</b>				
	7.1 Council precept	<b>22816.00</b>	25200.00	25200.00	26460.00
	7.2 CTS Grant	220.00	300.00	542.00	0.00
	7.3 Allotment rentals	312.00	265.00	265.00	265.00
	7.4 Parish paths grantsn LMP	790.00	728.00	728.00	849.00
	7.5 Grants	0.00	0.00	692.00	0.00
	7.6 Fees & Other Income	95.00	61.00	5.00	61.00
	7.7 Bank interest	964.00	490.00	400.00	1512.00
	7.8 Miscellaneous	367.00	0.00	5800.00	0.00
	7.9 From General Reserve				1747.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25564.00</b>	<b>27044.00</b>	<b>33632.00</b>	<b>30894.00</b>

\* best estimate at the time of preparation

### 3.0 Council's cash reserves

Cash holdings on 31 March 2023 were £66,744.32. 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 2024/2025 has been agreed at £26,832.** This is an increase of £1,632 (6.5%) set against a current inflation rate of 6.7% (September 2023 CPI). The cost to a Band D property is an increase from £38.55 in the current year to £40.68 (5.5% or £2.13)

### 4.0 How the council uses your money

The parish council owns and maintains three open spaces which are freely available to residents and visitors: the playing field (Menheniot village), the recreation area at Merrymeet and the 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 and on the A38 by The Hayloft as well as carrying out other grass cutting and footpath maintenance.

Visit [www.menheniotparish.org.uk](http://www.menheniotparish.org.uk) to download a calendar of meetings and updates of the forward plan.

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