

5 Precept Increase

RW advised a precept increase is to be considered. BB had scoped out the suggested 4%, 5%, 6% and 10% increase. BB further explained she had contacted SMBC Accountant requesting indicative band D dwellings; she had received confirmation that the number had increased from 1260 in 2020/2021 to 1268 in 2021/2022. However a formal calculation will be done using information up to 30th November 2020 so the indicative tax base is likely to change and we await notification. The precept notification form must be sent to SMBC no later than 22nd January but they request the parish council's likely indication of their precept by 8th January.

The paper had been circulated prior to the meeting for Members to digest and consider. Members discussed fully the options presented as follows.

Members considered the additional projects identified in the Parish Action Plan and Business Plan. It should also be remembered staff cost of living award, maintenance of the War Memorial transferred to the parish council from Coventry Diocese, Cyclists War Memorial maintenance and Library core operating costs should the parish office relocate, all play a major part in the decision process in setting a percentage increase. Also additional land has been acquired by the parish council in 2020 which requires on-going maintenance including the transfer of Leys Lane allotments from Taylor Wimpey to the parish council which is anticipated to be achieved in early January 2021 or perhaps before Christmas 2020.

TABLE 1	2021-2022
Precept 10% Increase p.a.	£58,205.004 (£5,622)
Increase per Band D p.a.	£45.903 (£4.17)
Based on previous year	1260
Support Grant	0
New Indicative Tax Base per Band D	1268
Indicative Increase to Band D	8
Increase per Band D dwelling p.a.	£4.17p/annum 0.0801p/week

RW suggested an increase of 10%. There is no longer a support grant from SMBC which finished at 31st March 2019. Therefore we need to make provision for this shortfall and currently there is no cap for precept increase. Members agreed that a 10% increase to precept would be prudent at this time and makes a sensible provision of additional expenditure to current community service delivery provided by the parish council. Please see table 1 outlining what it means to Band D households.

IT WAS RESOLVED: Finance committee recommend to full Council on 14th December 2020 an increase to precept of 10% per band D dwelling from 1st April 2021. The decision was unanimous however; proposed by Cllr Weaver and seconded by Cllr Barber.

Action: BB to amend indicative budget for precept increase to provide a total amount (what it means) increase for Band D dwellings and

SignedChair Dated

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circulate to full council prior to 14th December 2020 meeting.

6 Parish Action Plan (PAP)

Nothing to report.

7 Business Plan 2019-2023

Nothing to report.

8 Any Other Business

- RW reported the success of an application made to Western Power awarding £500 for Christmas emergency food boxes. BB to co-ordinate receipt of food parcels, cakes and emergency Christmas boxes from SMBC's foodbank.

Action: BB/JH/RW

- BB reported she had received a letter from Packington Estate on behalf of Lord & Lady Guernsey who wish to sponsor Christmas Lights. A generous offer from the Estate which will be picked up in the New Year for 2021. A letter has been written thanking them for their generous offer and acknowledging the lateness for 2020 but hopefully there will be opportunity for sponsorship in 2021.

Action: BB

- BB advised a quotation for 3.8K had been received for improved IT infrastructure to support the parish council and local community enabling communication and participation in meetings and events. This falls into a wider review of the parish council infrastructure to be discussed at a team development day in the New Year.

Action: RW/BB

9 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of finance committee will be held on Monday 11th January 2021 at 17.30 via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 15.50.

SignedChair **Dated**

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