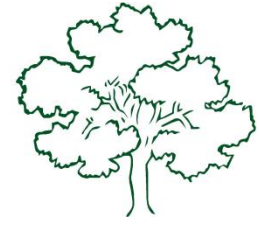


**Henstridge
Parish Council**



**Budget Setting
and
Precept Request
2022/23**

1 - Introduction

This report is intended to introduce the budget for 2022/23 and to briefly explain residents' Council Tax bills and how this relates to the Parish Council's precept request.

2 -Budget

The Parish Council budget is made up of Payments and Receipts. Within these two headings, the funds to be spent or received are broken down into "cost centres" and then "budget lines". This is to make sure that the Council knows that it has made provision for all of its responsibilities and for any unforeseen costs or income that may be incurred throughout the year.

While some payments and receipts are known in advance, for example salaries and allotment rents, it is impossible to make a completely accurate prediction of exactly how much will be spent or received. The Council's Financial Regulations allow for funds to be transferred from one budget line to another during the year, with agreement at a Full Council meeting, in case of unexpected costs.

In addition to the budget, the Parish Council also carries earmarked reserves. We are advised by the Somerset Association of Local Councils to retain between 6 and 18 months of running costs. Earmarked reserves are also used to save up for expensive items or projects over several years to mitigate the impact on the Council Tax bill of these larger items. Earmarked reserves are reviewed by the Council in April each year and at the time of budget setting. We have also been advised to make allowances for the changes in local government structure in Somerset commencing in 2023.

The following pages show the budget for the 2022/23 financial year. Where the increase is significant, these figures are highlighted in yellow and an explanation is given below.

PAYMENTS		
	BUDGET	BUDGET
Wages	2021/22	2022/23
Clerk's wages (incl HMRC)	£15,805.00	£ 16,000.00
ER NICs	£ 900.00	£ 1,000.00
Clerk's travelling expenses	£ 400.00	£ 400.00
Clerk's other expenses	£ 250.00	£ 250.00
Clerk's training	£ 200.00	£ 200.00
Pension costs	£ 306.00	£ 306.00
Grounds staff wages (incl HMRC)	£ 2,257.00	£ 2,300.00
	£20,118.00	£ 20,456.00
Administration		
Phone/broadband	£ 300.00	£ 300.00
Stationery	£ 150.00	£ 150.00
Printer	£ 150.00	£ 300.00
Postage	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
Insurance	£ 1,600.00	£ 1,750.00
Internal Audit	£ 515.00	£ 250.00
External Audit	£ 300.00	£ 300.00
Hire of premises	£ 200.00	£ 400.00
Bank charges	£ 144.00	£ 144.00
Office equipment	£ 50.00	£ 50.00
Website	£ 200.00	£ 200.00
Software	£ 60.00	£ 60.00
Subscriptions	£ 960.00	£ 960.00
Data protection	£ 35.00	£ 35.00
Accounting Software Yearly Subscription	£ 468.00	£ 468.00
Cemetery Management System Yearly Subscription	£ 588.00	£ 588.00
	£ 5,820.00	£ 6,055.00
Election/Councillor Expenses		
Councillor's expenses	£ 50.00	£ 50.00
Councillor's training	£ 250.00	£ 400.00
Elections	£ 0.00	£ 500.00
	£ 300.00	£ 950.00
Community Services/Coronavirus Support		
Grants	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00
Play Days	£ 500.00	£ 1,000.00
Henstridge Summer Festival	£ 500.00	£ 500.00
Platinum Jubilee	£ 0.00	£ 1,000.00
Youth Club Grant	£ 8,500.00	£ 8,500.00
	£ 12,500.00	£ 13,000.00
Open Spaces/Burial - Maintenance		
Machinery Repairs and Maintenance	£ 200.00	£ 500.00
Fuel	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
Grass cutting - Recreation Ground	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00
Annual Inspections - Play area, skate park, pump track & gym	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
Playground maintenance	£ 500.00	£ 0.00
Skate Park maintenance	£ 500.00	£ 500.00
Green Gym maintenance	£ 100.00	£ 200.00
Recreation Ground hedging & trees	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
Woodland Maintenance	£ 500.00	£ 2,000.00

Allotments maintenance	£ 1,000.00	£ 500.00
War memorial maintenance	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
Car park maintenance	£ 2,000.00	£ 500.00
Litter pick	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
BMX Pump Track maintenance	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
Ranger	£ 4,000.00	£ 6,000.00
	£ 8,300.00	£ 13,700.00
Open Spaces/Burial - Projects		
CCTV System	£ 2,000.00	£0.00
Noticeboard Refurbishment	£ 100.00	£0.00
Closed Churchyard	£0.00	£500.00
South West in Bloom	£0.00	£500.00
Furge Lane Field	£0.00	£500.00
Burial Ground Gate	£ 1000.00	£0.00
Allotments Projects	£0.00	£2,500.00
Village Hall	£0.00	£1,000.00
Lych Gate	£0.00	£1,000.00
	£ 7,100.00	£ 6,000.00
General Power of Competence		
Charitable donations	£ 200.00	£ 200.00
Other local organisations	£ 450.00	£ 450.00
Health and Wellbeing Support	£ 6,500.00	£ 2,000.00
	£ 7,150.00	£ 2,650.00
Reserves		
Parish Council Reserves as per policy	£0.00	£2,189.00
Total Payments	£61,288.00	£ 65,000.00

RECEIPTS	BUDGET	BUDGET
Administration	2021/22	2022/23
Precept	£61,111.00	£65,000.00
Interest on deposit and project a/c	£ 35.00	£ 35.00
Other	£ -	£ -
TOTAL ADMIN RECEIPTS	£61,146.00	£65,035.00
BG-OS		
Burial Ground fees	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,100.00
Allotment Rents	£ 630.00	£ 630.00
Land Rents	£ 0.00	£ -
TOTAL BG-OS RECEIPTS	£ 1,730.00	£ 1,730.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£62,876.00	£66,765.00

3 – Explanation of significant increases

PAYMENTS	Budget 2021/22	Budget 2022/23	2022/2 +/-	Percentage increase/decrease
Printer	£150.00	£300.00	+£100.00	+100%

This increase reflects the rising cost of printer cartridges for the Parish Council printer.

PAYMENTS	Budget 2021/22	Budget 2022/23	2022/23 +/-	Percentage increase/decrease
Hire of Premises	£200.00	£400.00	£200.00	+100%

This increase reflects the return to in person meetings after meeting virtually during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. In turn, hall hire charges have resumed.

PAYMENTS	Budget 2021/22	Budget 2022/23	2022/23 +/-	Percentage increase/decrease
Councillors Training	£250.00	£400.00	£150.00	+60%

With elections taking place a year early in 2022 the training budget has been increased to allow for training for new Councillors.

PAYMENTS	Budget 2021/22	Budget 2022/23	2022/23 +/-	Percentage increase/decrease
Play Days	£500.00	£1000.00	+£500.00	+100%

The Parish Council is funding a further play day for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations which is reflected in this budget increase.

PAYMENTS	Budget 2021/22	Budget 2022/23	2022/23 +/-	Percentage increase/decrease
Machinery Repairs and Maintenance	£200.00	£500.00	+£300.00	+150%

This increase is due to a new strimmer being required for the Handymen and an increase in costs for repairs and servicing.

PAYMENTS	Budget 2021/22	Budget 2022/23	2022/23 +/-	Percentage increase/decrease
Woodland Maintenance	£500.00	£2000.00	£1500.00	+300%

The Parish Council is hoping to produce a new woodland maintenance plan for Oak Vale Woods and improve it as an amenity for parishioners.

4 – Explanation of additions to budget

Additions to this year's budget include:

Election Costs: Due to the formation of the new Somerset Council unitary authority Parish Council elections have been moved forward by one year to 2022. A budget has been allocated in case the number of candidates requires an election and ballot.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations: The Parish Council has allocated a budget allowance to provide funding towards celebrations to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Allotments Projects: A budget has been allocated for improvements to be made to the allotments including an orchard and community shed.

Village Hall: Budget has been assigned to allow for professional fees which may be required during the process of investigating a new or improved Village Hall.

Lych Gate: The Parish Council is hoping to get the Lych Gate at the Churchyard restored. A budget has been allotted as match funding for grant applications.

Parish Council Reserves: The Parish Council has a duty to ensure it has sufficient reserves so a budget has been earmarked. This is supported with a new reserves policy.

5 - Council Tax - Your Bill

The Parish Council precept is just one small part of a residential Council Tax bill. According to SSDC's website, Council Tax is distributed between the following:

"...70.5 per cent of Council Tax money goes to Somerset County Council, 10.9 per cent to Avon & Somerset Police, 4.7 per cent to Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service, 3.9 per cent to parish and town councils within the district and 10 per cent goes to SSDC."

Full details on your Council Tax bill can be found here:

<https://www.southsomerset.gov.uk/services/council-tax/your-guide-to-council-tax/>

5 – Precept calculations

The information in the box below shows how the 2022/23 precept figure compares to the previous year.

Henstridge	
Precept 2021/22	£61,111
Tax Base 2021/22	£674.52
Equivalent Band D Charge 2021/22	£90.60
Precept 2022/23	£65,000
Tax Base 2022/23	665.70
Equivalent Band D Charge 2022/23	£97.64
Increase/decrease in Charge	£7.04
Increase/decrease in % to Tax Payer	7.77%

6 – Earmarked Reserves

Purpose and nature of reserve	Balance at 31/01/2022
New Village Hall and Car Park	£ 35,000.00
Recreation Ground Hedging Replanting	£ 10,000.00
Climate Emergency	£ 10,000.00
Risk Reserves (Day to Day contingency)	£ 30,000.00
TOTAL	£ 85,000.00

If you have any queries regarding this document please contact the Parish Clerk:

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