

WHADDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Whaddon Parish Council Precept Meeting held on 19th December 2022 at 7.30pm at Whaddon Village Hall.

Present: Chair L Ginger
Councillors A Birch, N Strudwick, D Townsend, J Hart, C Hales and W Elbourn
Parish Clerk A Bridges

1. Apologies for Absence – none

2. Parish Running Costs budget for 2023/24 – discussion and agreement of recommended budget.

The Chair confirmed 2023/24 is a non-election year and suggested that the Parish Council could keep the precept at same level as last year but not suffer any issues with inflationary increases, as we should not have to budget for election costs. This is mainly because the PC has an underspend of most of the £1,500 election budget for the May 2022 elections. It was felt that this would be supported by residents to help them keep household costs as low as possible.

The number of Band D household in 2023-24 increased to 221.1 houses, which gives Whaddon a precept of £17,661, which includes the projected parish administration costs of £15,399, less income of £840.

The Cllrs agreed that the recommended Parish Running Costs for 2023/2024 to be **£17,661**

3. Consideration of the Parish Council's Priorities for 2023/24

The forecast Parish running costs were reviewed and discussed. The Whaddon Village Hall & Recreation Ground Trust grant was assumed to remain at the same amount as 2022/2023.

4. Consideration of project costs/additional expenditure for 2023/24 – discussion and agreement of recommended project costs for inclusion in the budget.

The Parish Council agreed to keep the Band D payments at the same level as last year, which will increase the precept slightly from £17,629 to £17,661.

Projects identified were:

- Website £1,000
- LHI £16,000
- MVAS £4,000
- Highway initiatives £5,500

- Reserves for Village Hall repairs £6,677
- Parish Plan £1,850
- Small village enhancements £1,000

These project costs will be reviewed further in the summer when the exact year-end costs are known.

5. Review of Projected Income for 2023/24 and Agreement of 2023/24 Precept to be recommended to the Parish Council for approval:

The Cllrs agreed to recommend a total Parish Council funding requirement for 2023/24 (for Parish Running Costs plus additional Project Expenditure) of £17,661. It was agreed that Band D contributions would stay at £79.88 which is the same rate as last year.

This recommended precept would be approved at the January PC meeting. The supporting calculations would be posted on the website and circulated via the village email system.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.