

CALDECOTE PARISH COUNCIL

Budget Report

14th January 2021

Item: 11

At this meeting, members will be asked to set a budget and precept for the financial year 2021/2022.

In January 2020 members agreed a precept of £82,519 an increase of £1.54 or 1.50%

We are currently working with the budget parameters for 2020/2021, and although income has been lower than forecast due to Covid-19, we benefitted from a £10,000 grant via SCDC from the Government's grant scheme.

The council has started security works on the Pavilion and have recently commissioned an architect to draw up proposals for extending and improving the building.

The Council has also commissioned the replacement of play equipment in Furlong Play area.

Together these items will have cost c£109,000, this will deplete our reserves to the satisfaction of the external auditor.

My initial forecasts were that CPC would benefit from an increase in the tax base (number of new occupied properties), however the government have introduced the "Local Council Tax Support" this is to cover the shortfall in council tax income due to support during Covid-19. This has reduced our number of new homes by 28 units. A further deduction of 0.6%, 4.8 homes has been deducted due to "uncollectable".

As a result, our tax base has only been increased from 789.4 homes to 790.2 (0.8 of a home)! Or an increase of £83.62.

The Chairman and I have agreed to work on a tax increase of 1.5%, which would increase the precept by £1.56 per annum on a band D property. It would increase our current precept (income) by £1,237.78

Enclosed is the forecast budget for 2021/2022.

Many of the assumptions are based on historical records of previous years. Unfortunately, 2020/2021 is not an easy guide as Covid-19 has severely dented our income and the forecast for 2021/2022 is difficult to predict as the current emergency continues!

However, I have been able to update the budget to reflect the priorities of the Council for the coming year. There is small increase in some items to reflect inflation forecasts.

Section 26-33 reflects the latest salary review, there is unlikely to be any change in 2021/2022 as the government is freezing public sector pay.

There is no change to the maintenance of public space as some of the allocations for 2020/2021 were unspent.

I have included £2000 for the Youth Club in anticipation of re-starting sometime during the year.

Recommendation:

- **0The Council sets a budget of £95,994 for the year 2021/2022**
- **The Council forecasts expenditure of £95,788**
- **The budget surplus of £206**
- **Ask for a precept of £83,838.60 which is £106.09 for a Band D property, (an increase of £1.56 per annum or £0.13 per month =1.5%)**