

YAXLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: 8th December 2020

SUBJECT: BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2021/22

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide information to Members on the Committees requirements for 2021/22 to enable the precept to be set. ***Please submit any questions on the budget to the Clerk or Finance Officer prior to the meeting.***

CALCULATION OF PRECEPT

Officers have taken on board the requests made by the various Committees.

Some items that were budgeted for in the 2020/21 budget that have not yet been fulfilled will be transferred to the Earmarked Reserve to be spent in the future, the predicted Earmarked Reserves have been shown on Page 14. The main variances in the budget from 2020/21 to 2020/22 are in:

- Personnel, this is mostly due to a reduction in the Employers rate for the pension.
- Properties as the income has been reduced due to Covid 19.

It is predicted that there will be a surplus over budget of £8,107 most of this can be accounted for in projects that have been put on hold due to Covid 19. The lack of income has been offset by the Personal budget, due the reduction in the Pension rate after the budget was set.

This will result in an increase of our General Reserves. This could be put aside for future projects.

Last year the parish council tax base for a band D property was £128.79, with an overall precept of £380,059 and it is suggested that the tax base remains the same for 2021/22.

Guidance recommends a General Reserve of 50% of the Councils precept or 6 months expenditure (£358,198 in 2019/20), it is predicted that the Council will have £366,305 in the General Fund and £214,086 in the Earmarked Reserve as shown on the attached schedule page 14.

To fund the attached Budget the Council should consider:

- The budget has been set for a zero percent increase on the Council Tax Base. For information this would result in a precept of £379,801.71; with no increase in a Band D property.

- Transferring £40,000 of the General Reserves into the Earmarked Reserves for future Capital Projects, such as a provision a cemetery extension.

NB The District Council calculates the tax base for the area taking into account the number of new properties likely to be completed during December 2020 and March 2022 as well as predicted levels of discounts and premiums. Covid 19 has had an impact on the factors that are used to calculate the Tax Base with a predicted increase in Council Tax Support. As a result the tax base for band D properties in Yaxley is predicted to go down by 2 properties to 2949 and this is reflected in the slightly reduced level of precept for next year.

CONCLUSION

The Finance Officer recommends a zero percent increase in the Precept, with a transfer from General Reserves allocated to the Earmarked Reserves to plan for Capital Projects. Resulting in a precept of £379,801.71 and a band D Council Tax of £128.79.

RECOMMENDATION

- That the report be received and the contents noted;
- a sum of £40,000 be transferred to the Earmarked reserves for the new Cemetery; and
- that the Council approves the Budget for 2021/22, determines the level of precept request for a band D property and the overall level of precept.

Helen Taylor

Clerk to Yaxley Parish Council