

Briefing Note

Budget & Precept 2019/2020

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The Parish Council is required to agree a budget for the coming year and make application to Cornwall Council to collect a precept before 31 December 2018. Because the council does not hold a public meeting in December, councillors are asked to approve a budget and precept application at their meeting on 15 November 2018. This briefing note sets out the background to the budget and recommends that the council support a precept that will enable it to carry its statutory duties and projects for the next financial year.

2.0 THE ISSUES

2.1 Expenditure for 2019/20 is budgeted to be £21,540, which is a reduction of £19 compared to the budget set last year. Overall, the decrease is less than 1%.

2.2 In order to meet the day to day expenses of the parish council, I have taken into account a reduction in the Council Tax Support grant from Cornwall Council (which decreases by about 10% each year) and ignored any possible income that may derive from fees or charges other than the allotments. I have included an increase in interest from the new deposit with Cornwall Council.

2.3 In calculating a budget for 2019/2020, your Clerk has examined all the costs incurred to date and made provision for changes, as well as including items that we may be liable for in the future.

2.3 In earlier years, there has been a consistent surplus of income over expenditure. Cash reserves at the end of the last financial year were £98, 839 and this may reduce by up to £12,000 at the end of this financial year after payment of Community Grants and other items. The final calculation for a budget that takes account of all these factors will require a precept which is lower than that previously levied. The proposal is that the precept be reduced to £20,000. This is a decrease of £5168 or 21%.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 To accept the budget calculation of £21,540 and support a decreased precept. The final calculation for the precept in 2019/20 would be £20,000.

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