

Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting re Precept on 18th November 2019

Attendees: Cllrs Halliday, Craig and Williamott - Finance Committee members.
C R Turner - Clerk/RFO

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the precept for the next financial year, 2020/21, taking account of extra costs that are estimated, on additional areas that have been highlighted at the previous PC meeting on 13th Nov.

The additional costs are for Trees/Rabbit control in the cemetery, village signs, pond maintenance, and the traffic order costs. These were estimated at £1,500, £500, £500 and £3,500 respectively, total £6,000.

We looked at expenses that had been estimated for the current year and revised figures for next year which showed a reduction in “admin” costs by £550 as no election costs expected. “Other services” were increased following a rise in grass cutting costs by £1500pa to £5,700pa, but the insurance is expected to be £50 less, an increase overall of £1,450. Grants and donations to remain the same at £300. Street cleaning and associated costs were increased by £200pa. With the extra costs as above of £6,000 the overall requirement would be £30,200 less income expected. We are expecting the Memorial Hall income to cover the outgoings except for the outside renovations and internal decorating which are covered by funds we already hold. The cost for the completion of the car park has been budgeted for in previous years and any extra can be obtained from outside sources.

The income we receive in addition to the precept is from glass re-cycling estimated at £800. We do have costs relating to the cemetery, allotments and flowers but these costs should be covered by income received leaving just £800 to be allocated against costs. Net therefore £29,400 which would mean a large increase in precept. Agreed that the traffic order costs would initially be met from reserves of £2500 and only include £1000 in precept charge. Net precept £26,900.

This will mean a rise of 12.86% or £7.38pa. Cllr Williamott will draft a letter explaining all to the public.

Chris Turner