

Statement from Colnbrook with Poyle Parish Council regarding the parish precept for 2024-2025.

At a meeting on the 23rd January 2024 the Parish Council decided on the budget and precept request for the coming financial year.

After very careful consideration the Parish Council set the precept, (the amount of council tax this council will receive) at £93,600. This means that a home in Council Tax Band D property will pay £50.12 per annum towards the Parish Council. The amount you pay will be less if you live in a property that is in council tax band A,B or C (Or more if your home is in Council Tax Band E or above).

This is an increase on the amount you will have paid in 2023/2024. This year each band D household paid £41.49. But, for the coming financial year, 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025, there **is an increase of £8.62 per annum, or 16 pence per week.**

Immediately post Covid, the Parish Council wanted to support households during the cost-of-living crisis. So, the precept was reduced from the pre-covid level of £103,000 to £76,441. So, whilst the precept is increasing in the next financial year we are still not asking residents to pay as much as they did prior to the cost-of-living crisis.

The Parish Council want to assure residents that the decision to increase the precept was not taken lightly, but the council is subject to the same inflationary pressures as all other organisations. To ensure that we give residents best value for money the council is looking to reduce its administration overheads wherever we can. We have given notice on the parish office at Westfield Community Centre as it wasn't used enough to justify the increasing cost of running the office. We are actively seeking additional grants to support our work in the coming year.

This year our priority is to improve the Playground at the Rec and replace some of the equipment which is no longer safe. We will also continue our work to reduce speeding in the village, provide Christmas displays, and summer hanging baskets, community events and a regular newsletter, as well as giving grants to local organisations.