

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

BPC(13)21 - Financial Update 2021/22, Precept and Budget 2022/23

Finance Update

Expenditure

Table 1 (attached) shows revenue expenditure so far in the current year against budget, with projections for likely remaining items of expenditure. Subject to any contingencies, expenditure this year is expected to be well within budget at: **£2,816**

In addition we have a programme of capital expenditure. Spending this year includes:

- £9,509** – Children’s Play Area
- £2,616** – new Speed Indicator Device
- £2,060** – new defibrillator

Expected expenditure includes:

- £5,868** – additional equipment for Children’s Play Area

The total for expenditure in 2021/22 could therefore be: £22,869.

We will need to pay 40% of the further Play Area equipment cost as a deposit, but the balance may fall in 2022/23, depending on when installation takes place in the Spring. Any expenditure on 20mph speed limits, if agreed - see other item on Agenda - is likely to fall in 2022/23.

Reserves and Income

The opening balances of the Council’s two bank accounts at the start of the year were:

Current Account:	£16,133	
Reserve Account:	£13,232	Total: £29,365

Income in year:

Precept 21/22:	£5,000	
Allotments rent:	£100	
S106:	£3,410	Total: £8,510

Total of resources available in 2021/22 : £32,775

Expected balance at the end of 2021/22: £9,866

Precept 2022/23

The deadline for the submission of a 2022/23 Precept request to Wiltshire Council this year will be 18th January 2022. A final decision on Bishopstone's Precept could be left until the January meeting, though, as in previous years, it may be possible to reach a decision at the November meeting.

The amount of income the Parish Council receives from the precept on Wiltshire Council's Council Tax is calculated by multiplying the charge on a Band D property (the middle of the Council Tax range) by the number of properties registered in the parish (known as the tax base). Wiltshire Council has said that updated information on the tax base will not now be available until 5th November so I will report this at the meeting.

The following table sets out the levels of increase in the precept for Bishopstone in the last five years.

	Band D Property Annual Charge	Precept Income
2017/18	26.51	7,217
2018/19	27.83	7,705
2019/20	32.02	8,860
2020/21	35.22	9,746
2021/22	17.94	5,000

The Bishopstone precept level last year was 49% lower than in 2020/21. This reflected the Council's decision to let all households in the village benefit from the windfall Covid grant of £10,000 received in that year. The following table shows the level of Band D charge, Precept and % increase last year for nearby parishes.

Parish Council (2020/21)	Band D Charge	Precept	% Increase on previous year
Coombe Bissett	30.21	11,000	1.31
Broad Chalke	35.85	9,600	0
Bowerchalke	30.47	5,400	2.32
Ebbesbourne Wake	32.89	3,500	-0.66
Fovant	37.87	12,620	4.10
Wilton	153.98	243,187	2.29

The issue for decision this year is whether to increase the precept back to a level similar to that in 2020/21 or to some intermediate level between that and the current year. As indicated above, the projected balance for the end of this financial year is of the order of £10,000. **This is an appropriate level to maintain as a reserve.** The level of precept therefore needs to reflect likely expenditure in the year 2022/23.

A suggested revenue budget for the year 2022/23 is set out in Table 1. The total is likely to be around £5,500 - depending on decisions on the level of grants to village organisations (see Agenda Item 10). In practice expenditure in the year is rarely up to budget because of

underspends on items such as maintenance and contingencies.

Some provision also needs to be made for potential projects in the year (this could include expenditure on 20mph speed limits - £2,750) and other projects yet to be identified. All of which suggests that a level of precept similar to that in 2020/21 is about right.

As indicated above, information on the tax base for 2022/23 will not be available until 5th November at the earliest. However, an approximate calculation can be made by using the 2021/22 tax base. Options might be:

Precept 2022/23	Band D Property Annual Charge	Precept Percentage increase
£5,000	£17.94	0
£7,500	£26.90	50
£10,000	£35.87	100

I will produce a final version of the above table, using the revised tax base figure, at the meeting.

Conclusion

Councillors are asked to consider and approve:

- (i) an overall budget for 2022/23 as set out in Table 1 (subject to amendment at the meeting in the light of decisions on grants to village organisations), including:
 - a grant to the PCC in 2022/23 of £550 for churchyard maintenance;
 - a grant to the CVSC of £300; and
- (ii) a precept request to Wiltshire Council of £10,000.

Mike Ash
Clerk
October 2021

Table 1

BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL			
Expenditure 2021/22			
Budget 2022/23			
Budget Heading	Budget 2021/22	Expenditure 2021/22	Budget 2022/23*
Hire of Village Hall	£120.00	[£180]	£180
Insurance	£700.00	£680	£680
Internal Audit	£85.00	£84	£85
Parochial Church Council	£450.00	£450	£550
Village Hall	£350.00	£350	
WALC Subscription	£270.00	£267	£270
Chalke Valley Sports Centre	£250.00	£250	£300
Donations	£500.00		£500
STAB Donation	£450.00	£450	
Minor Works Programme		£105	£1,000
Clerk's/Chair Expense	£500.00		£500
Repairs & Maintenance	£1,000.00		£1,000
Contingency	£500.00		£500
Total	£5,175.00	£2,816	£5,565
			*assuming grant recommendations accepted.