



2023/24 BUDGET & PRECEPT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 8/23

13 FEBRUARY 2023

The purpose of this report is to summarise the Town Council's anticipated expenditure for the financial year 2023/24 and provide the basis for the formal adoption of a Budget for that year and the setting of the related Precept.

NO. DETAIL

1) BACKGROUND

- a) A letter from the Isle of Wight Council requests the Island's 33 Town and Parish Councils to submit their Precept requirement for 2023/24 by 10 February 2023.
 - b) I have informed the responsible Officer, Richard Wheeler, that the Town Council's Precept requirement will be agreed on 13 February and, in response to his request, I have agreed to provide the figure on his deadline date subject to confirmation on the 14 February.
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2) DRAFT BUDGET FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/24

- a) In line with the agreement at the Town Council's Informal Budget meeting of 17 January the attached draft Budget for 2023/24 provides for an increase in the Precept of £47,361, an 11.98% increase in the Band D charge: 35 pence a week.
 - b) It should be noted here that around £200,000 or 52% of the proposed Precept total is the consequence of the Town Council's commitment to retain services from which the Isle of Wight Council withdrew funding: the Paddling Pool, Grounds Maintenance, the Library, Beach Cleaning, Beach Safety, Ventnor Park, Youth Centre, Youth activities, Public Toilets and associated administration costs.
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3) MAJOR INCREASES

- a) *Wellbeing Café*: the remarkable success of the Wellbeing Café as it has grown from five members to 90, and the level of need for it that has been revealed, were behind the decision of the Town Council at its January meeting to expand it to five sessions a week with its Co-ordinator becoming a full-time member of the staff team, requiring an increase of £20,00 in its funding.
 - b) *Public Toilets*: the £29,427 increase includes the addition of the cleaning of the Ventnor Park toilet previously done by the Putting Green manager (£7,500), the repayments to the Public Works Loan Board for the new public toilet (£7,556), the rental payment for the four car park spaces to put it on (£2,900), the absence of this year's anticipation of income from the new public toilet (£5,000), provision of increased electricity costs (£1,500) and salary increases (£3,390).
 - c) *Grounds Maintenance*: the Town Council's contractor has increased charges for the work in the town including Ventnor Park by the 10.7% of the CPI in December.
 - d) *Salaries*: excluding the major change to the Wellbeing Café from the total shows an overall percentage increase of the other 17 posts of 5.2% well short of the current 10.7% inflation increase.
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4) MITIGATIONS

The draft Budget also includes two significant reductions: £10,000 on the Beach Safety project and £5,000 on the Youth Service in the expectation of grant input.

Members have also agreed to commit £5,000 from the Salisbury Gardens anticipated surplus and a further £9,000 from Car Park income to reduce the pressure on the Precept as much as possible.

5) RECOMMENDATION

The Town Council is recommended to:

- i) adopt the Draft Budget attached to this Report;
 - ii) confirm its Precept-related Budget for 2023/24 to be £; and
 - iii) authorise the Town Clerk to inform the Isle of Wight Council accordingly.
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Budget 2023/24

	1	2	3	5	6	7	8
	2022/23 budget	Predicted outturn	Variance	Predicted 2023/24 costs	Income	Precept Budget 2023/24	+/- 2022/23
Administration salaries	89,000	89,400	- 400	93,698	-	93,698	4,698
Overheads							
4 Office stationery	1,000	1,500	- 500	1,500		1,500	500
5 Office equipment	1,000	1,750	- 750	1,750		1,000	-
6 Photocopier costs	1,750	1,650	100	2,000		2,000	250
7 Affiliation Fees	1,000	1,000	-	800		800	- 200
8 Insurance	7,100	7,100	-	8,000		8,000	900
9 Telecomms & IT	5,500	4,000	1,500	5,000		5,000	- 500
10 Audit Fee	1,350	1,340	10	1,350		1,350	-
11 Bank Charges	450	450	-	700		650	200
12 Legal & Professional Fees	1,000	2,500	- 1,500	1,000		1,000	-
13 Member Training	100	64	36	100		100	-
14 Cleaning	1,500	1,750	- 250	750		750	- 750
15 Maintenance	5,000	6,000	- 1,000	5,000		5,000	-
16 Van	3,000	2,500	500	1,500		1,500	- 1,500
17 Office + Room Rent	10,750	10,750	-	10,750		10,750	-
18 Miscellaneous	3,000	6,000	- 3,000	3,000		3,000	-
Overheads total	43,500	48,354	- 4,854	43,200	0	42,400	-1,100
Infrastructure							
19 Town Clocks		-	-			-	-
20 Metrological Honorarium	600	600	-	600		600	-
21 Spring Hill Gardens	1,500	3,000	- 1,500	1,500		1,500	-
22 Putting green	2,000	2,000		2,000	3,500	- 1,500	500
23 Green Ventnor	2,000	3,500	- 1,500	2,000		2,000	-
24 Public Toilets	40,000	50,000	- 10,000	69,427		69,427	29,427
25 Paddling Pool	3,500	2,000	2,500	2,500		2,500	- 1,000
26 Outfit	750	2,000	- 1,250	750		750	-
27 Sea Breeze Park	750	750	-	750		750	-
28 Grounds Maintenance	28,000	28,000	-	30,996		30,996	2,996
29 Ventnor Library	20,000	20,000	-	20,000		20,000	-
30 Ventnor Central	4,000	5,000	- 1,000	5,000		5,000	1,000
31 Beach Cleaning	4,270	6,000	- 1,730	6,000	1,730	4,270	-
Infrastructure total	103,370	122,850	- 14,480	141,523	5,230	136,293	32,923
Services							
32 Beach Safety	17,000	25,000	- 8,000	7,500		7,000	- 10,000
33 No 31 Bus	6,600	6,000	600	11,440	4,000	7,440	840
34 Sustainability & Biodiversity				2,500		3,000	3,000
35 Warmer Ventnor Project	2,500	2,000	500	2,500		2,500	-
36 Business Development	30,000	30,000	-	31,000		31,000	1,000
37 Community Development	35,000	35,000	-	35,000		35,000	-
38 Youth Service	27,500	25,000	2,500	27,500	5,000	22,500	- 5,000
39 Wellbeing Café	7,000	9,000	- 2,000	28,000		27,000	20,000
40 Advice Service	1,500		1,500	2,000		2,000	500
41 Tme & Tide Bell	1,400	1,400	-	1,400		1,400	-
42 Boniface Fields	2,500	6,000	- 8,500	6,000	4,500	1,500	4,000
43 Ventnor Park	26,000	35,000	- 9,000	35,000	3,000	32,000	6,000
Total Projects	152,000	174,400	- 22,400	189,840	16,500	172,340	20,340
49 Contingency			-				

	Non-Precept Activity		Contribution to Budget		Amount	
50	Salisbury Gardens				5,000	
51	Car Parks				9,000	
	Total				14,000	%increas
Precept	383,370	Precept Requirement	430,731	Changes	47,361	12.35%
Council Tax Base	2,516.5	Council Tax Base	2,525.2	2022/23 to	8.7	
Per Band D household	£ 152.34	Per Band D household	£ 170.57	2023/24	£ 18.23	11.97%