

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**FINANCE & STAFFING COMMITTEE****Budget Plan 2022-23****1. Setting the Precept**

- 1.1 The Finance & Staffing Committee has considered expenditure for 2022-23 and is proposing that the precept for is approved at 2022-23 at **£926,868.00** This represents an increase of **3%** on the previous year's Precept budget and an increase of **3.2%** on the Council tax for **Band D**:

Precept Requested 2021-22	£899871.86
Tax Base	8,873.60
Precept for Band D Property	£101.41
Precept Requested 2022/23	£926,868.00
Tax Base	8,852.70
Precept for Band D Property	£104.70

- 1.2 A summary of expenditure planned for 2022-23 is set out below:

Expenditure Headings	Proposed 2021-22	Proposed 2022-23
ADMINISTRATION	£31,550.00	£27,575.00
SERVICE DELIVERY COSTS	£193,900.00	£255,200.00
ELECTION EXPENSES	£6,000.00	£7,500.00
ALLOTMENTS	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
BUILDING PROJECTS	£15,000.00	£0.00
GRANTS & COMMUNITY	£53,500.00	£54,707.00
PARISH IMPROVEMENTS	£10,250.00	£11,250.00
LEGAL & INSURANCE FEES	£21,000.00	£21,500.00
OPEN SPACES	£16,000.00	£15,000.00
PLAY AREAS	£104,500.00	£98,500.00
STAFFING	£427,000.00	£485,179.00
VOLUNTEER RELATED	£11,000.00	£9,015.00
TOTAL	£899,700.00	£995,426.00

In planning for 2022-23, the Finance & Staffing Committee is mindful that the national pay award for the public sector has not been finalized for the current financial year

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and is likely to be 2.5%. If a similar percentage is agreed for 2022-23, staffing costs will increase by 5% on the existing payroll. This represents an increase in the region of £21,250.

- 1.3 In context of the overall financial picture, West Swindon Parish Council had overall reserves at £832,701 at the end of the last financial year. Of these there are earmarked reserves for future projects which total £79,000.

Total Reserves at 31.03.21	£832,701.00	At 31.03.22
Earmarked Reserves 2020-21	£36,000 Backland projects	£45,000
	£23,000 Election expenses	£24,500
	£10,000 Youth development	£13,500
	£10,000 Allotment development	£20,000
	£0 Building Projects	£15,000
General Reserves 2020-21	£753,701.00	tbc

The Parish Council has no significant or guaranteed income source. Reserves have been derived from set up grants from Swindon Borough Council and underspend in previous years, particularly the first two year, 2017-18 and 2018-19, when the Parish Council was still getting established. The Parish Council should retain 4-6 months operating costs at all times. These are costs which are estimated at £500,000 as a minimum reserve. Future reserve expenditure may be the acquisition of permanent premises.

- 1.4 Income: The income of the Parish Council for 2022-23 is set out as follows:

	<u>2021-22</u>	<u>2022-23</u>
Precept	£899,872.00	£926,868.00
Bank Interest Received	£112.00	£206.00
C/Tax Support Grant	£22,053.00	£22,053.00
Community Infrastructure Levy	£23,863.00	£0.00
Blagrove-Frankland Road	£1287.00	£824.00
Grounds maintenance Income	£1660.00	£5,150.00
	<u>£952,347.00</u>	<u>£955,101.00</u>

- 1.5 The budget for 2022-23 is £68,558 higher than the proposed Precept of £926,868.00 and £40,325 higher than expected budget income for the year of £955,101.00. The Finance & Staffing Committee acknowledges that there have been underspends in previous years and on that basis, proposes that an annual increase of 3% on the

overall precept budget is reasonable.

2. Recommendation:

2.1 That Council approves a Precept increase of 3% on the overall budget (3.2% on Band D equivalent).

2.2 That Council authorises the Parish Manager and the Chair of the Parish Council to submit a Precept Demand to Swindon Borough Council for 2022-23 at a total of **£926,868.00**