

Parish Precept 2021/2022

The year 2020/21 has been extraordinary for everyone and the Parish Council is no exception. While the 'precept' (the Parish Council's share of your Council Tax) makes up the greater part of our income a significant contribution comes from the hiring of rooms at the Rothley Centre and the Village Hall. Throughout the year both buildings have either been completely closed or hiring of rooms severely curtailed. This has led to a significant shortfall in income which we have had to make good from the contingency reserve that we are (fortunately) obliged to maintain under Government guidance. In setting a budget for 2021/22 we have been obliged to allow for the likelihood of the loss of income continuing for part of the year and the need to replenish the contingency reserve. This means that the precept will have to increase by a significant percentage (about 38%). However, residents should not be too alarmed as this will only represent an increase of around 50p per week for each household. Furthermore, the precept in Rothley will still be low compared with surrounding villages.

The Parish Council's budget for 2021/22 is £220,412. This compares with £200,007 for 2020/21. As always, the 'precept' (the Parish Council's share of your Council Tax) makes up the greater part of our income - £190,207 for 2021/22 compared with £138,000 for 2020/21. The breakdown of Parish Council expenditure for 2021/22 will be approximately as follows:

Salaries 35%

Admin/operating costs 7.5%

Open spaces 14% (grass cutting, maintenance, floral displays, playgrounds etc)

Christmas lights 3.6%

Village Hall 5% *

Cemetery 2.5%

Street Lighting 2.5%

Rothley Centre Running Costs 20% *

Insurance 3%

Other 7%

* largely offset by lettings income in 'normal' years

Last year we reported that it had been agreed to assist the Community Library financially as its County Council funding runs down and we expected there to be a small increase in precept in the financial year 2021/2022 and thereafter as a result. However, as the library has been successful in applying for grants the parish council contribution is not needed in 2021/22.