

## West Rainton Parish Council - 20 January 2022

### Agenda Item 9: Precept for 2022/23

#### Report of the Parish Clerk

To comply with the deadline of 21 January 2022 set by Durham County Council (the Council Tax administering Authority), the Parish Council is required to agree, set and request the precept for the financial year 2022-23.

#### Tax Base 2022/23

The County Council has updated its tax base modelling taking into account the updated position in terms of new build and incidence of other discounts and exemptions impacting on the tax base calculation.

The table below shows the position for West Rainton Parish Council

Current Tax Base (2021/21) (A)	683.2
Tax Base for 2022/23 (B)	690.5
Tax Base increase from 2021/22 (C) = (B-A)	7.3
Current Band D Council Tax (2021/22) (D)	£51.80
Increase in Council Tax Yield (E) (C X (D))	£378.14
Removal of the 2021/22 LRTRS Grant (F)	£3125
LCTRS Grant Applicable in 2021/22 (G)	£3187
*Net Position (E) – (F) + (G)	£442.14

\*This is the amount the Parish Council could reduce its precept by to give a standstill position in terms of resource availability.

To assist Parish Council consider the setting of the 2022/23 precept please refer to the attached Appendix.

This summarises:

- Actual expenditure and income in 2020/21
- Forecast expenditure and income outturn for 2021/22
- Draft budget for 2022/23 based on a standstill position i.e. no change to precept.

#### Draft Budget 2022/23

In drawing up the proposed budget for 2022/23, careful consideration has been given to anticipated spending based upon experience gained over previous years. Your attention is drawn to key provisions in the draft budget:

- The forecast general reserve balance at 31/3/22 is £42,886.
- From the balance of £42,886, it is proposed to transfer £20,000 to the Village Improvement Plan (VIP) Reserve to fund a number of potential projects currently being considered by the Parish Council. as part of its

2021/22 Annual Plan. This will increase the VIP earmarked reserve to £30,000..

- The £4,000 earmarked election reserve will be maintained.
- The forecast net general reserve balance carried forward to 2022/23 is £22,886
- The potential to support Durham Area Youth's funding request for £5,000 2022/23 (to be considered under a separate agenda item at this meeting)
- The potential to support other grant applications from community groups totalling £830 (To be considered under a separate agenda item at this meeting)
- Provision for further bulb planting to improve village greens £2,000
- An increase for inflation where considered necessary (5%)
- Amalgamation of all General Maintenance Budgets with £10,000 provision to cover all agreed commitments for cemetery maintenance, Heritage Garden maintenance, village planters maintenance, ad hoc grave top and turfing and other ad hoc maintenance requirements e.g cemetery and village greens.

### **Potential funding pressures not reflected in the draft budget**

The following potential funding pressures have **not** been reflected in this draft budget:

- Further funding support to secure the financial sustainability of Jubilee Hall
- Projects being considered as part of the 2021/22 agreed parish Council Annual Plan. Once proposed projects are developed, these will be reported to Parish Council to consider funding from the earmarked VIP. Specific budget heads can then be allocated and the VIP reserve applied accordingly
- Potential for other community support via grants policy during 2022/23

### **Conclusion**

The 2022/23 draft annual budget forecasts a surplus of **£8689**. This will increase the general reserve forecast balance at 31 March 2022 to **£31,575**. Consequently, no increase in precept is considered necessary.

Parish Council is asked to consider this report and the Appendix in order to agree the precept requirement for 2022/23 and agree a draft provisional budget for 2022/23

**Jan 2022**