

Whetstone Parish Council Precept Information 2024/25

This leaflet provides you with a summary of the estimated income and expenditure for Whetstone Parish Council in the forthcoming year and compares this with the budget figures for the previous year. The Parish Council provides a range of services for the benefit of the community. We try and maximize the revenue we receive and use this to make the village a better place to live in, as well as maintaining all our village amenities and assets.

This year saw the room bookings for the Edward Wright room continue to flourish, the use of the Warwick Road playing fields were steady and the Cemetery has been at a constant and anticipated level of demand.

The staff of the Parish Council have continued to work hard throughout the year ensuring all public facilities were kept operational and safe. Last year, we were delighted to support the Kings Coronation celebrations held once again on Trinity Park. They were well attended and everyone that attended had a great time. Once again, the event highlighted the special place that the Park holds in everyone's heart. We continue to fight against the proposed development on part of this much-loved green open space.

We have continued to improve the look of all of our open spaces that we own within the village. We have also continued tree safety works throughout the village on our open spaces, parks and again in the Cemetery. Finally, we reviewed our members IT and whether we can be more efficient as a Council. This work took place and a low cost solution is now in place and being trialed by Council.

This year we have new projects that are planned for and these include:

- **Building works** – The Council has allocated monies to allow it to replace the facias and any cladding on the Offices at Cemetery Road to replace the old timber facias that have seen better days since their installation in 1992.
- **Christmas Lights** – The Council has put aside further monies so it can continue making the village sparkle. The Christmas trees fitted around the village last Christmas were well received and we are looking to add more this next year.

As well as the above, we have full access to S106 developer contributions and will be looking to upgrade some of the play equipment currently installed on the parks, as well as looking at new items of interest, including lighting further paths on our parks, and looking to add new footpaths and fencing. We should complete early this year, the transfer to the Parish Council of the Public Open Space areas off Wright Close and Elliot Close from DWH. We will also continue to look to further highlight and improve Highways matters in the village.

The precept set for 2024/25 by your Parish Council shows a 2.88 % increase (once the newly lived-in homes, now in the village are considered), on last year's base precept of the Whetstone Parish Council portion of your council tax. This small increase allows us to keep up with the inflationary pressure that we are all feeling and operate efficiently and prudently. We will use this to continue to improve the facilities for Whetstone. We hope you find this to be good value.



STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE

The precept requirement of Whetstone Parish Council for the year 2024/25 is £268,422 which is based on estimates of income and expenditure as follows:-

EXPENDITURE	2023/24 £	2024/25 £
Employment Costs	160,822	172,919
Council depot & Cemetery	28,027	30,055
Finance & Administration	11,800	15,388
Equipment	11,300	11,990
Community & Environmental	17,966	17,500
Special Projects	41,500	39,800
Earmarked & General Reserves	- 5,708	-5,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	271,415	287,652
LESS INCOME		
Raised by Council via cemetery fees, agency agreements, hire of premises and pitches and General Reserves	17,915	24,230
PRECEPT REQUESTED	259,208	268,422

The Council welcomes any comments from Parishioners and our website details are shown below:

WHETSTONE PARISH COUNCIL
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www.whetstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk