**Watton Town Council**

**Budget 2022**

**Planning Notes**

**2020 Budget**

* No overspends anticipated that cannot be vired within Cost Centres.
* Code 1130 may show an overspend due to purchase of computers. The TC monthly charge for IT support will rise due to 2 additional e-mails as requested and the cost of upgrading the Deputy Clerks and Clerks Office 365 packages (est. an additional £25 per month).
* Code 4360 - To note that window cleaning costs are showing as lower than expected at present as we are querying paying for cleaning of internal windows during lockdown. Expect to receive reduced invoices so cost may be slightly down this year.
* Anticipated overspend on salaries hopefully will be covered within the Cost Centre but should be available within the overall budget if not.
* Donations to Loch Neaton and BF/CHT are from CIF, not the budget.
* Code 3320 Pocket Parks grant of £25000 to be reclaimed but this cannot not be done until grant criteria has been met (need community involvement once able and may not be able to claim until into 2021 financial year).

TC allocated £10667.80 towards this project.

* £2731 in identified playground equipment repairs still to be invoiced.
* Should remain within budget for Grounds Maintenance Cost Centre if Pocket Parks grant is realised.

**2021 Budget**

* Initial draft of 2021 budget does not include any additional projects and is thus looking at maintaining the status quo as much as possible.
* Code 8100 Quite large increase anticipated in salaries and with employer NI included estimated need of £126500.
* Code 8400 estimated need £23600.
* Suggest some codes can see budget reductions and initial draft gives a budget need of £423755 which is a reduction against 2020 and thus there is scope to reinstate amounts that have been dropped or include others.

CIF

CIF stood at £83500 as of 01.04.2020.

During 2020 allocated £10000 to BF and £3050 to Loch Neaton

RESERVES

Reserves stood at £369140 at end of 2019 financial year.

£35551 allocated to support the 2020 precept leaving £333589

PRECEPT

Initial 2021 budget suggestions show a budget need of £427605.

Cost Centres

Administration £41400

(Legal, phones, insurance, office expenses, elections)

Grounds Maintenance £53980

(Cemetery, open spaces, play areas, flowers, youth provision)

Neighbourhood Plan/Re-generation £10000

Premises £76875

(Unit, Clock Tower, Wayland Hall, Toilets, Market)

Events/Activites £53500

(Fireworks Evening, Festive Market, Christmas Lights, Other Events and £15000 included for Youth Provision)

Grants Allocation £7500

Health & Safety £2500

Staff (salaries, well-being, pensions, training, NI) £178600

Vehicle £3250

**TOTAL £427605**

This could be achieved thus:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Precept | | 384155 |
| Cem. Fees estimated | | 10000 |
| Market Rent estimated | | 3000 |
| Fireworks estimated | | 500 |
| Festive Market estimated | | 300 |
| Allotments | | 700 |
| Bank Interest estimated | | 300 |
| Other income estimated | | 5000 |
| Transfer in from reserves | | 23650 |
|  |  | **427605** |

**The 2021/22 Budget was set by the Town Council at its meeting on December 8th with a precept request as above of £384155. The Council has been mindful that local tax payers may have restrained financial positions in 2021 as a result of difficult circumstances in 2020 and has therefore strived to keep the precept as low as possible. It is hoped that residents may actually see a reduction in the Watton contribution of their Council Tax charge in 2021.**