**Precept Planning Report**

I have prepared the following report to give context to the PC spending in the current financial year (2022/23) in comparison to the financial year 2021/22.

**2021/22 Financials**

Precept awarded – £4700.

Expenditure (excluding VAT) - £4435.09

Underspend - £264.91

**Conclusion**

The PC did not have any unexpected large expenditure during this financial year and spent within the precept amount. No reserve funding was used.

**Reserves**

At the end of the financial year the total was £4330.41.

**2022/23 Financials**

Precept awarded – £4700.

Estimated expenditure (including future payments and excluding VAT up until the end of the financial year) – £6219.51.

Grants received – £1611.10 (trees and jubilee)

Actual PC spend – £4608.41.

Underspend - £91.51.

**Conclusion**

This is the third consecutive year of an underspend however the level of underspend is significantly decreasing each year. With the national cost of living crisis, the PC will soon be spending their reserves.

**Projected Reserves**

After all expenditure, the total should be an estimated £4350.86.

**Proposal**

The PC require a precept of £5140 to cover running costs, this will inevitably see a rise in the council tax. This does not account for any large projects planned. Please see the table below for alternative precept options and the Band D charges. Please note that any amount other than £5140 will see the PC use their reserves. As a rule, a PC should hold at least two times the precept as reserves, should there ever be an ad hoc election.

*Note that this is not the full council tax amount, this is only the precept portion that makes up the full council tax bill.*

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| **Proposed Precept**  **(£)** | **Band D charge 2023/24 (£)** | **Band D charge 2022/23 (£)** | **Difference**  **(%)** |
| 4700 | 44.85 | 44.51 | 0.76 |
| 5000 | 47.71 | 44.51 | 7.19 |
| 5140 | 49.05 | 44.51 | 10.2 |

It should be noted that the PC have kept the precept the same since 2020.

**Budgets for 2023/24**

The below budgets are based on the current year’s spending, salary increase and other rate increases.

* Salary and expenses - £3240. This increase is to reflect the national pay rise due in April, in addition to the work from allowance the clerk is entitled to.
* Running Costs - £1100. I have reduced this due to spending during 2022/23. This should also allow an expected increase in insurance premiums.
* One-off items/ contingency – £650. I have reduced this and added an additional budget heading for Cllr training.
* Cllr Training - £50
* Defibrillator - £100. I have reduced this in line with this year’s spending.

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