

Finance and Administration Committee Report to the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 21st April 2008

Committee: Councillor Susan Barclay
Councillor Richard Wickham (until December 2008)
Councillor Wendy Chambers
Councillor Keith Masdin (from March 2008)
Councillor Ian Plain

1. Budget 2008 and forecast budget for 2008/2009

The budget set for 2007/2008 was sufficient for the parish needs whilst still leaving adequate reserves.

The budget for 2009 (copies of which have been provided), has been set producing an increase in the parish precept of 12.6%. This means an increase in council tax to a band D home owner of £3.17 per year up from £25.16 to £28.33.

The principal reasons for this are:
We have been obliged to align the salary for the Parish Clerk with nationally negotiated pay scales;
And, unlike the previous year there have been no grants receivable anticipated in the 2009 budget.

2. Grants

The Parish Council are continuing to explore opportunities to receive funding for projects and are please to note that we have recently been successful in obtaining a grant for the renewal of play equipment which Stan Cherry have mentioned previously.

We have also received in 2007/2008 support from the preparation of the Bathford Bulletin from Quartet Community Chest which will be utilised in the coming year.

Finance & Administration Committee
April 2008