

Precept Statement For 2019/20

The precept for Bagworth and Thornton Parish Council has been set at £110,000 for the year 2019/20.

The Precept is calculated on the amount of money it takes to provide the facilities and services that fall within the remit of the Parish Council.

Attached, is a breakdown of the expenditure that the Parish Council foresee for this precepted year. The Parish Council are also required to hold a reserve, which is to provide the capacity for the Parish Council to be able to function for a period of approximately 6 months in case of any kind of emergency. Prior to 2011/12 the Parish Council had an extremely low reserve and so as a consequence this is still being built up.

Every year the Finance Committee scrutinise the costs and all proposed future projects, in order to keep the precept as low as possible. Where possible grant assistance is sought to fund major projects (which in the current climate is harder to secure). As is invariably the case, grant applications have to be matched from internal funds, therefore a grant contingency of £5,000 has been included within this precept, which will enable the application of grants to be funded, thereby reducing the inclusion of extra costs in the Precept for example dog bins, grit bins & notice boards etc.

The Finance Committee has strengthened its budgetary forecasting since May 2018 including the day to day auditing being brought in house. This has enabled greater financial control and efficiency. There has also been costs savings. The current Council is committed to continuing this strategy with introducing more finance meetings enabling greater forward planning and taking advantage to apply for any appropriate grants to enhance community facilities with value for money.

One of the additional costs, is the future employment of a Handyperson. The majority of this expenditure is made up of costs that are usually paid to outside contractors. The Handyperson, who will hopefully be employed by April 2019, will be employed for 15 hours a week and whose job description will include playground inspections, an assortment of ground maintenance tasks i.e. maintaining flowerbeds, litter picking, maintenance on the QEII site, assistance of the allotment sites, upkeep and maintenance of Council owned assets, filling grit bins, removal of graffiti etc.

The Precept currently provides both the Community Centres in Bagworth and Thornton with a grant of up to £10,000 a year. Due to the continued financial pressures placed on the Parish Council to keep the overall precept amount as low as possible, it has been resolved that both grants will be reduced on an annual basis by £1,000 per year from 2020, for a period of 10 years, with the aim of both Community Centres being totally self-sufficient by 2029. We will of course monitor this and continue to offer external grant application advice and financial

assistance in cases of extreme hardship (upon full disclosure of income streams and expenditure).

The cost implications for the facilities currently sited at the QEII Bagworth are being reviewed for the next football season. We have been invited to apply for a share of a £650,000 Developing Communities Fund from Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council which is to support Parish Councils with housing growth to deliver larger projects within the community. The maximum funding, we could receive is £153,000, but of course this would depend on the amount of match funding we can raise (minimum of 25%) and grants awarded to other projects. The aim of the Parish Council would be to use this grant to finally replace the pavilion on the QEII Sports Ground and thereby opening the facility to a much wider clientele rather than just football. We have also secured S106 Developers Contribution for the Dunlop site of £8,103.06 which will go towards outside gym equipment.

The role of the Parish Council is to be an essential part of the structure of local democracy and we have a vital role in acting on behalf of the communities we represent. We: give views, on behalf of the community, on planning applications and other proposals that affect the parish, undertake projects and schemes that benefit local residents, work in partnership with other bodies to achieve benefits for the parish, alert relevant authorities to problems that arise or work that needs to be undertaken, help the other tiers of local government keep in touch with their local communities. The Parish Council also has a wide range of legal duties and powers, such as the maintenance of community buildings and land and much more.

In May 2019 Local Elections will be held to elect the 8 Councillors (4 each for Bagworth and Thornton Wards) who will represent your community for the next 4 years. As elected bodies parish councils are responsible to the people they represent – that's your local community.

Reductions in Local Govt funding may see services you take for granted reduced in the future. Your Parish Council could step in and fill the void in your community and could benefit from your skills & enthusiasm. Are you concerned about our local area and the wellbeing of our residents? Do you want to take a civic role & represent your area and local people? Can you contribute your business or personal skills and expertise for the benefit of the community? Are you passionate about facilities and services provided for your community? If you would like to make a difference and be involved in shaping the future of the local community, why not stand for election?

Also, there are lots of ideas for improving our community talked about and posted on social media, we need you to communicate this direct to the Parish Council either by contacting your Councillors or the Parish Clerk or even attend the Parish Council meetings which are held on the first Monday of every month. We are here to serve and implement constructive suggestions, but of course we need to know about them first.

PAYMENTS ACCOUNT			
INCOME			
Precept			£110,000.00
Other Income			
Open spaces management plan			
Allotments Bagworth			£775.00
Allotments Thornton			£220.00
Barlestone Road Field rent			£984.00
Allotment Field Rent			£950.00
Grazing - Bagworth New Wood			£410.00
Land rental at QEII			£20.00
Pitch Hire Fees QEII			£1,920.00
Interest received			£225.00
Wayeave Western Power			£280.58
Thornton Community Centre Land			£1.00
Bowling Club Rental			£50.00
Total receipts			£115,835.58
EXPENDITURE			
Administration			
Audit fees			£600.00
Bank charges			£144.00
Chairman's expenses			£100.00
Courses other training and advice			£360.00
Insurance			£3,000.00
Legal and professional fees			£600.00
Office expenses	(copier rental & Service)		£720.00
	(copier use)		£420.00
Postages telephone & stationery	(postage)		£51.00
	(telephone & broadband)		£1,428.00
	(telephone - mobile)		£24.00
	(stationery)		£120.00
Subscriptions & registration fees	(LRALC & NALC)		£436.51
	(LRPFA)		£30.00
	(ICO)		£35.00
	(RCC)		£50.00
	(Parish online)		£50.00
	(SLCC)		£159.00
Election expenses			£500.00
Website			£600.00
Computer Maintenance			£80.04
Allotments and open spaces			
Open spaces management plan			
Thornton Meadows			
Allotments	Bagworth		£250.00
Allotments	Thornton		£120.00
Dog bins			£2,664.00
Grass cutting and maintenance			£23,184.70
QEII Ground Maintenance	Additional grass cutting		£1,470.00
Playground inspection	annual		£325.00
Street lighting			£480.00
Playground equipment repair & replace			£1,000.00
Staff costs			
Clerk's expenses			£385.00
Clerk's salary			£18,000.00
Pension scheme			£3,960.00
TAX & National Insurance			£1,320.00
Sickness Protection			£136.56
Handyperson Salary & Allowences			£8,150.00
Materials & Expenditure			£2,300.00
Thornton Community Centre			
Grant			£9,200.00
Maintenance			
Waste disposal			£1,380.00
Bagworth Community Centre			
Grant			£9,760.00
Container hire			£240.00
External repairs			£1,200.00
Grants			
Grants S137			£1,200.00
Christmas Trees			£180.00
Rememberance			£60.00
Loan repayments and interest			
Loan repayments			£7,470.00
Contingency			
Grant Contingency			£5,000.00
Total payments			£113,942.81

