

Report to	Findon Parish Council
Meeting Date	20 January 2025
From	Fiona MacLeod, Clerk
Title of Report	Precept/budget for 2025/26
Purpose of Report	To approve the precept/budget for 2025/26

1. Precept/budget proposals

- 1.1 A discussion and review of the draft working documents was undertaken by members of the Finance & Governance (F&G) Committee at its meeting on 9 January 2025. The refined Budget/Precept is attached as Appendix 1 to this report and includes comments/assumptions for ease of reference for councillors. The document has been compiled by the Clerk in consultation with councillors and is based on the previous years budgeted expenditure, and the current and projected expenditure up to year end (31 March 2025).
- 1.2 As has been mentioned in previous years, the Government remains concerned about the pressure placed on taxpayers from town and parish councils across England and expects these councils to exercise restraint. There are no council tax referendum proposals for town and parish councils in 2025/26, however the Government will keep the situation under active review for future years.
- 1.3 The precept for 2024/25 is £59.55 pa per Band D household based on a tax base of 974 households. Arun District Council (ADC) has calculated that the tax base for 2025/26 is 980. ADC use a report from its Revenues system that lists all the dwellings at that particular point in time on the valuation list. The report provides a tax base figure which is then adjusted for any new dwellings in the pipeline and it can also increase/decrease due to changes in discounts, reliefs or exemptions. In addition, the final figures are based on Band D equivalents and therefore numbers may look lower if houses are in Bands A-C rather than D-H.
- 1.4 Using the ADC tax base of 980 and based on the precept increasing from £58k to £62k, my understanding is that this would equate to an increase of £3.45 per annum or £0.06p per week on the local charge for Band D equivalent.
- 1.5 In a letter to all parish councils, ADC requested confirmation of the parish council's precept requirement to be received by them no later than 24 January 2025.

2. For recommendation to full Council

- 2.1 The Precept/budget table detailed in Appendix 1 be approved by Findon Parish Council and ADC advised by 24 January 2025,

Precept/Budget 2025/26

Cost	Precept 2024/25	Projected Costs 2024/245	Proposed Figures 2025/26	Comments and Assumptions
Administration				
Insurance	£2,600.00	£2,440.00	£2,600.00	3 year fixed premium from Sept 2023 and assuming no new FPC assets. Mower insurance separate
Cllr Expenses	£50.00	£25.00	£50.00	provision for travel costs re meetings etc
Chairman allowance	£150.00	£350.00	£500.00	eg costs towards Annual Parish Meeting
SALC/NALC/PoL Subscriptions	£850.00	£734.00	£850.00	no increase
Training courses	£400.00	£0.00	£400.00	no increase
Audit fees	£800.00	£1,080.00	£1,000.00	
Clerks salary, tax	£16,500.00	£16,626.00	£17,500.00	take into account any annual increase
Clerks expenses	£450.00	£370.00	£450.00	no increase
Clrks storage	£280.00	£280.00	£280.00	no increase
Gen Admin Expsn	£450.00	£250.00	£350.00	includes all cartridges, stamps, paper, other office supplies etc
BT Services	£1,200.00	£1,390.00	£1,750.00	allowing for any further increase in charges
Electrical supply	£650.00	£670.00	£750.00	allowing for any further increase in charges
Web site, Teams, Parish on Line	£3,700.00	£3,390.00	£4,200.00	increased charges for ongoing web site management, IT Support incl GDPR, licences, emails
room hire	£1,000.00	£716.00	£1,000.00	no increase
Public Works Loan repayments	£7,000.00	£6,736.00	£7,000.00	no increase
Legal costs/professional fees	£1,000.00	£129.00	£1,000.00	no increase
Sub TOTALS	£37,080.00	£35,186.00	£39,680.00	
Open Spaces				
Grass cuts NG/verges	£7,500.00	£8,000.00	£9,000.00	TBC pending outcome of tender process
Winter Maintenance	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	variable costs dependent on weather
Parking and Signage	£1,000.00	£200.00	£750.00	potential for additional CIL funding
volunteer equipment	£500.00	£650.00	£750.00	purchase/lease

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Community Resilience	£250.00	£240.00	£250.00	no increase
dog/litter bin annual maintainence	£0.00	£0.00	£2,480.00	new item
North Green Security	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£0.00	additional budget agreed by FPC and security enhancements completed in 2024
Tree management	£2,000.00	£584.00	£1,000.00	also see Reserves
General incl mower, OS equip maint	£1,000.00	£855.00	£1,000.00	no increase
Sub TOTALS	£17,750.00	£16,029.00	£18,230.00	
Grants				
total available			£3,500.00	2025/26 financial year lump sum
St John the Baptist Clock maintenance	£200.00	£234.00	£0.00	
<i>School PTA</i>	<i>£500.00</i>	<i>£500.00</i>	<i>£0.00</i>	<i>tbc</i>
Friends of SJTB Church/Messy Church	£500.00	£350.00	£0.00	
Pre-School	£1,500.00	<i>£2,500.00</i>	£0.00	<i>tbc</i>
<i>Swimming Pool</i>	<i>£500.00</i>	<i>£1,000.00</i>	<i>£0.00</i>	<i>tbc</i>
<i>Village football club</i>	<i>£100.00</i>	<i>£350.00</i>	<i>£0.00</i>	<i>tbc</i>
Lambstails	£100.00	£0.00	£0.00	
4Sight Vision Support	£0.00	£260.00	£0.00	
Sub TOTALS	£3,400.00	£5,194.00	£3,500.00	
	£58,230.00	£56,409.00	£61,410.00	
Total	£58,230.00	£56,409.00	£61,410.00	

2025/26 precept £62000.00

2024/25 precept £58000.00