

## **Whetstone Parish Council Precept Information 2023/24**

This leaflet provides you with a summary of the estimated income and expenditure for Whetstone Parish Council in the forthcoming year and compares this with the budget figures for the previous year. The Parish Council provides a range of services for the benefit of the community. We try and maximize the revenue we receive and use this to make the village a better place to live in, as well as maintaining all our village amenities and assets.

This year saw the room bookings for the Edward Wright room recover to the same level as pre covid. The sports clubs who use Warwick Road playing fields also returned, being able to play full seasons. The Cemetery has also seen a return to a more normal level.

The staff of the Parish Council have worked hard throughout the year ensuring all public facilities were kept operational and safe. Last year, we were delighted to support the Queens Jubilee celebrations held on Trinity Park. They were well attended and everyone that attended had a great time. The event highlighted the special place that the Park holds in everyone's heart. We continue to fight against the proposed development on part of this much-loved green open space. After completing the works on the new exercise equipment, we also installed new fencing on the park to enhance its look. We continued tree safety works throughout the village on our open spaces, parks and again in the Cemetery. Finally, we allocated monies to look at how we deliver our IT to our members and whether we can be more efficient as a Council. This work is taking place over the last quarter of this financial year and will be reported on next year.

This year we have new projects that are planned for and these include:

- **Coronation Celebrations** – The Council has allocated monies to allow it to contribute to this year's Coronation celebrations by marking the occasion again with an event on Trinity Park in May.
- **Christmas Lights** – The Council has put aside monies so it can look at making the village sparkle a little more at Christmas time. We cannot afford the Blaby Town Centre look, but will use the monies set aside to move this popular request from Parishioners throughout the year, forward.

As well as the above, we once again have access to S106 developer contributions and will be looking to upgrade some of the play equipment currently installed on the parks, as well as looking at new items of interest. We are still negotiating with DWH to complete the transfer to the Parish Council of the Public Open Space areas off Wright Close and Elliot Close. We are also looking to further improve on Highways matters in the village. This last year we achieved the purchase of a portable air quality monitor which, once delivered, will allow us to monitor air qualities around the village.

The precept set for 2023/24 by your Parish Council shows a 2% increase (once the newly lived-in homes, now in the village are considered), on last year's base precept of the Whetstone Parish Council portion of your council tax. This small increase (4 pence per week) allows us to try and keep up with the inflationary pressure that we are all feeling and operate efficiently and prudently. We will use this to continue to improve the facilities for Whetstone. We hope you find this to be good value.



## **STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE**

**The precept requirement of Whetstone Parish Council for the year 2023/24 is £259,208 which is based on estimates of income and expenditure as follows:-**

| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>  | <b>2022/23<br/>£</b> | <b>2023/24<br/>£</b> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Employment Costs  | 151,148              | 160,822              |
| Council depot & Cemetery  | 24,840               | 28,027               |
| Finance & Administration  | 9,935                | 11,800               |
| Equipment   | 10,310               | 11,300               |
| Community & Environmental   | 15,050               | 17,966               |
| Special Projects  | 48,500               | 41,500               |
| Earmarked & General Reserves  | 0                    | - 5,708              |
| <b>TOTAL ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE</b>  | <b>259,783</b>       | <b>271,415</b>       |
| <b>LESS INCOME</b>  |                      |                      |
| Raised by Council via cemetery fees, agency agreements, hire of premises and pitches and General Reserves | 11,470               | 17,915               |
| <b>PRECEPT REQUESTED</b>  | <b>251,864</b>       | <b>259,208</b>       |

The Council welcomes any comments from Parishioners and our website details are shown below:

WHETSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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[www.whetstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.whetstoneparishcouncil.gov.uk)