

COSBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Cosby Parish Council Precept for the year 2023/24

The 2023/24 Precept sets a stable, responsible, challenging but necessary Precept for the Parish of Cosby that continues to put the Parish Council on a firm footing for both the current and future years but seeks to recognise the current cost-of-living challenges.

The Parish Council recognises the future risks to funding, increasing liabilities and progressive ambitions for the village of Cosby and will be investing in the provision of valuable services in support of the parishioners of Cosby including Cemetery Maintenance, Children's Playground, Victory Park, Christmas lights, Cosby Brook, community events, sports and recreation facilities and the wider maintenance and development of our Public Open Spaces including c:200 trees.

The Parish Council aspires to open a local and accessible Parish Council office in the heart of the village ensuring that the Parish Council is better placed to serve the residents and businesses of Cosby with the possibility of re-purposing the Cemetery Chapel where planning permission has already been secured.

The Parish Council strives to minimise the cost to local tax-payers but recognises its overall responsibility to the village of Cosby but has only two income streams, the Council Tax Precept and Cosby Cemetery. The Parish Council therefore plans its budget accordingly and builds up reserves to fund new projects, equipment replacement and village maintenance.

Budget headlines

Income	Precept & Cemetery	£154,769
Costs:	Administration, Legal and IT	£5,017
	Employment Costs	£81,202
	Council office and property	£3,950
	Cemetery	£2,150
	Victory Park and Public Open Spaces	£27,520
	Community and environmental	£15,830
	Accruals against planned future expenditure	£12,900
	Other and incidental costs	£6,200

The Precept Demand of £147,759 equates to a challenging increase of £14,277 (10.70%) an average of **(£0.22pw)** per Band D property for the residents of Cosby for the year 2023/24. This increase is necessary to enable the Parish Council to fund the 2022/23 & 2023/24 LGA Pay awards, invest in staff; training, property, recreation, sports, leisure and equipment for the future and to provide Cosby-wide improvements for our parishioners.

Les Phillimore
Parish Manager, Clerk and RFO to Cosby Parish Council

Council Office

Cosby Parish Council is in desperate need of an office to operate efficiently, provide our staff with practical accommodation, manage the village services and ensure that the parish council is visible and accessible for the residents of Cosby.

A number of options are being investigated.

Sports and Leisure

Cosby Parish Council will continue to increase its investment in community facilities including sports and recreation, open spaces, playground equipment, village projects and events whilst also supporting community groups with village activities.

The Parish Council is in discussions with the sports teams, agencies, architects and consultants with the ambition of improving the quality of the Victory Park sports fields and providing improved facilities.

The Parish Council is working on a major business case for the improvement of and expansion of facilities on Cosby Victory Park. Substantial grant funding will be required to deliver the Parish Councils ambitions and the Parish Council also faces substantial future costs, if ownership of Cosby Village Hall transfers to Cosby Parish Council.

Cemetery

Cosby Parish Council is looking to bring the Cemetery Chapel back to life for the benefit of the entire community and will be seeking to secure a Heritage Lottery Grant to achieve this.

Planning permission has been secured to re-purpose the Cemetery Chapel as a Parish Council office but this is a significant project to deliver which requires a business case to be developed for grant funding.

Traffic and Road Safety

The Parish Council continue to focus on traffic and road safety seeking to improve traffic flow and reduce speeding and congestion within the village.

Cosby Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Development Plan was approved by referendum in December 2022 and will help the Parish Council continue to develop policies and plan for the funding needs of the village.

Cosby Parish Council newsletter

The Parish Council continues to invest in this service to ensure that all parishioners are kept informed of developments, events and opportunities within the village.