

**WOOLSTON PARISH COUNCIL – 26 JANUARY 2022**  
**REPORT OF THE CLERK**  
**BUDGET AND PARISH PRECEPT 2022-23**

The Council is requested to determine the budget and parish precept for 2022-23. A summary of the estimated net expenditure for 2022-23 is given below. A copy of the draft budget for each committee has been supplied.

**Environment and Amenities**

Environmental works and events	12400	
Battery Lane Allotment Site	550	
		12950

**Finance and General Committee** 24125

**Total net expenditure** 37075

**Martinscroft Village Green**

A survey of trees on the Green was carried out during 2021.

The agreed scheme for traffic calming measures included recognition of maintenance work. Provision has been made for unplanned works e.g., tree works and road maintenance.

**Hillock Lane amenity area**

A survey of trees was carried out during 2021.

Liaison is continuing with the Borough Council on use of the amenity area as part of a scheme for Woolston Playing Fields. Until this information is received consideration of environmental improvement works to the amenity area has been halted.

Provision has been made for unplanned works e.g., tree works and participation in any scheme promoted by the Borough Council.

**Woolston Playing Fields**

Responsibility for the management of the playing fields has been with the Borough Council from 1 September 2012. Discussions with the Borough Council have been delayed on the future use and management of the playing fields and the associated impact on the amenity area because of the Covid-19 emergency. Provision has been made for participation in any scheme promoted by the Borough Council.

**Election costs provision**

Provision has been made in the draft budget for the repayment of the costs of elections, including those in May 2021, based on the policy agreed by the Borough Council to have the option of repayment by instalment.

**Friends of Woolston Park**

Provision of £3000 has been included in the draft budget for Community Events, as in previous years. Separate provision is made in the draft budget for works by the Group in the park.

**Road safety scheme**

Provision has been made for a road safety scheme to assist in speed control of vehicles. This scheme is being developed in liaison with the Borough Council and the Police.

### **Facilities for young people**

The Council has considered the provision of facilities for young people e.g., skate park and/or revenue support to provide additional services subject to consultation with other agencies and young people in the parish. The Council has received reports of possible contributions from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire. Provision has been made as a contribution to a scheme.

### **Old Billy scheme – New Cut Canal**

The Council has given approval to a scheme along the New Cut Canal to celebrate the life of Old Billy, the World's oldest working horse. Culture Warrington are leading on the development of the scheme, and it is intended that physical works will be installed this year. Quotations are being obtained by Culture Warrington from the supplier of similar works undertaken by the Environment Agency and estimated provision has been made. Liaison is to take place with the New Cut Heritage and Ecology Trail Group and the Poulton with Fearnhead Parish Council when draft artwork and quotations have been received.

### **Earmarked reserves 2022-23**

Provision has been made for the following earmarked reserves:

Martinscroft Village Green	5000
Tree works	2000
Woolston Playing Fields/Hillock Lane Amenity Area	3500
Road safety scheme – speed control	2500
Facilities for young people	2500
Old Billy scheme – New Cut Trail	2750
Total	18250

### **Calculation of Precept for 2022-23**

Closing balances 31/3/21		
Council	28689	
Charity	10460	
Total balances at 31/3/21		39149
Precept 1/4/21	26000	
Council balances	28689	
Total		54689

### **Estimated net expenditure 2021-22**

Committee budgets	25619
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### **Estimated balances at 31/3/22**

Council	29070	
Charity	10460	
Total balances		39530

**Budget provision 2022-23**

Net estimated expenditure 37075

Earmarked reserves 18250

**Total provision 55325**

Estimated amount to be met from Precept £26255

**Level of Precept**

The precept for 2021-22 was £26000 giving an amount of £11.34 for a Band D property. A precept of £26113 would give an estimated amount of £11.34 for a Band D property.

Other examples:

£25000 £10.85

£26000 £11.29

£26255 £11.40

£26777 £11.63

**Recommendation**

That the Council determine the Budget and Precept for 2022-23.