



Kingsteignton Town Council

PRECEPT 2023/24

The budget setting process for the 2023/24 Financial year was probably the most challenging in living memory and this is an experience shared with many other Councils (Source Alan Mellor SLCC National Finance and VAT Adviser November 2022).

The precept in 2018/19, after adjustment for Council Tax support grant no longer received after then, was £56.63 and for the 2022/23 year had risen to only £61.93 an overall increase of 9.3% and less than half the inflation rate for the same period.

The latest annual inflation figure, to be updated 22 March 2023, is 8.8% having been in double figures for a long period before then.

This has put the finances of the Council under severe pressure with increased costs for virtually everything and the situation is made worse by the fact that Rental income for the main hall, Mary Hall Suite and Rydon room has still not returned to levels enjoyed pre COVID.

As well as all these pressures it was also decided that, if a lot more work was to be done around the Town, more in the way of maintenance staff were needed, this being a cheaper option than outsourcing such work.

A combination of inflation, loss of income and increased labour costs left the Council with no choice other than to increase the precept by an amount which, although large in percentage terms, amounts to £19.19 pa or a little over 5 pence per day.

In the period since staffing levels were changed, a lot of time and effort has gone into improving the Town with, for instance, work being carried out on public pathway clearance, further graffiti removal etc. The Council will continue to seek to provide first class amenities at the Community hall and look at ways of improving facilities in Kingsteignton.

During the year just ending considerable improvement works were carried out at Clifford Park.

The Council continues to support various groups through the annual grant process and with support grants to both Kingsteignton Swimming Pool and Kingsteignton Youth Club.

Finally, as in the past, we will continue to work closely with Teignbridge District Council and Devon County Councils to improve those areas where we have no jurisdiction.

16.03.2023

Note

Precept figure is based on the average Band D rate as per Teignbridge District Council guidance.