

LEWKNOR PARISH COUNCIL

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BUDGET 2021-22 Final

This is next year's budget, as agreed by councillors at LPC's December 14th meeting and formally approved at LPC's January 11th meeting.

As always, I have gone through every category, considering the funds LPC needs to continue to run the parish in the best possible way.

I have taken into account LPC reserves, plus the fact that the issue of the 2% referendum appears to have been shelved, at least for the time being. I believe we also need to consider the extraordinary times we live in which mean financial uncertainty for many.

Therefore, I propose LPC cuts its contingency so that it can keep its precept at the same level as this year. I have consulted Duncan, who has gone through these figures and produced the new, clearer Precept calculation sheet (attached). This also shows the CIL and NP funds which cannot be used for day-to-day expenditure.

SODC's provisional tax base for Lewknor parish in 2021-22 is 310.5 (up from 303.5 last year). This means that based on the proposed precept, within the total council tax bill each Band D household in Lewknor parish will pay £41.86 for the year towards the running of the parish council (down 97p on last year).

Note 1: LPRG&H After discussions about the shortfall suffered by LPRG&H due to the pandemic and lockdown, LPC has agreed to increase their contribution, for one year only to £5,000.

Note 2: Clerk's Salary This has been increased based on the past years when LPC has needed to pay for extra hours worked.

Note 3: Clerk's Expenses This needs to increase to take account of the cost of the clerk's work mobile phone.

Note 4: Grasscutting This will always be an estimate due to the weather playing a huge part in how many cuts are needed.

Note 5: Dog bins This must increase significantly because SODC has ended its subsidy and vastly increased its fees, forcing LPC to move to a private contractor who, while cheaper than SODC's new prices, is still a lot more than LPC has paid in the past.

Note 6: Neighbourhood Plan Attached is a separate spreadsheet showing the running total of what has been spent of the £9,000 SODC and LPC grants. This money is taken out of the general calculations as the money is ring-fence for the NP.

Item 7: Website The new website is now up and running so the costs go down significantly.

Barbara Drysdale

Responsible Finance Officer
Lewknor Parish Council

January 2021