

KILMERSDON PARISH COUNCIL

YOU ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF KILMERSDON PARISH COUNCIL AT THE COLES GARDEN MEETING ROOM ON MONDAY 15th JANUARY 2018 AT 7.30PM

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES** To receive apologies for absence
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** To note any members' interests
3. **MINUTES** To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20TH November 2017. December meeting was not quorate. **(Pages 1-4)**
4. **PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME** (max 15 mins).
5. **FINANCIAL MATTERS** To approve expenditure as follows

Payee	Detail	Gross	Net	Power	Ch no
L Welch	Salary (Nov)	£241.62	£241.62	LGA 1972, s112	001212
HMRC	Quarterly Clerks tax	£180.60	£180.60	LGA 1972. S112	001213
SJH Services	Clearing leaves, hedge reduction, cutting playing field	£400	£400	LGA 1972 s111	01214
Apollo Technology	Laptop and printer	£822.70	£987.24	LGA 1972 s112	01215
GB Sport and Leisure	Quarterly inspection	£55	£66	LGA 1972 s111	01216
L Welch	Salary (Dec)	£241.62	£241.62	LGA 1972, s112	

6. **FINAL REVIEW OF THE FIXED ASSET REGISTER (Page 5)**
7. **BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2018 19**
To confirm the budget and agree the precept 2018 19. The council tax base for Kilmersdon has decreased slightly this year. Mendip DC has confirmed that this because the tax base is calculated by working out the number of band D equivalent dwellings and then account for any properties where the full charge is not being paid eg empty properties, single occupancy, council tax support. There has been an increase of five properties from last year to this but there has been an increase of eight single occupancy households and one more where a disregard discount of 25% is being applied. The result is a drop in the number of households where the full council tax is being paid. This will account for the small decrease in the tax base. **(Pages 6-12)**
8. **DEFIBRILATOR**
To consider adding the defibrillator to the Parish Council insurance **(Page 13)**
9. **GRANT PAYMENTS**
Kilmersdon Parish News: It would be most appreciated if we could again this year, apply for a grant of £400 towards the running costs of the Parish News, which is a free community magazine for the

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residents of Kilmersdon. We derive much of our income from advertising and donations and have in the past been fortunate enough to receive a grant from the Parish Council, this commenced the month the magazine was set up some 14 years ago.

Mendip Community Transport. Details of frequency and number of people benefitting from the service in the village was requested. They responded :As to the services that are available to your residents I really can do no better than attach our information sheet which sets out all the services we have to offer. Having interrogated our data base it is a little disappointing that we only have six residents who have registered to use us & in the main this has been the use of our Hospital car scheme.
(Information circulated on the December agenda)

Parish Church: Last time we had a grant of £1300 towards the cost of upkeep of the Churchyard - I would estimate that it probably costs at least double that over the year. Hopefully we aren't too late now. It would be greatly appreciated if we could have a grant as the congregation is quite small in number to have to raise this amount.

10. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- To receive any feedback on the request, via Cllr Pullen, for double white lines up the hill and the moving of the 30mph signs to their original positions.(August 2017, feedback requested 18/10/17. 4/12/17 Cllr Pullen confirmed that he would chase.)
- To receive any feedback from Cllr Drewe regarding the possibility of being part of local initiatives to reduce speed. (Sept 2017, feedback requested 18/10/17)
- Charlton Lane - feedback on the request for a sign approaching the junction (Cllr Gibbs) (Sept 2017, feedback requested from Somerset CC 18/10/17)

11. VILLAGE SIGN AT THE TOP OF THE HILL

the Clerk asked Cllr Pullen about the possibility of the Highways Authority contributing towards the replacement of the broken sign. The sign costs £700 and the Village Day Committee has given the Parish Council £200 towards it.

12. GATES OUTSIDE NO 3 AND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HILL

Cllr Pullen has confirmed this was not included in SIS funding and is getting costings in order that the Parish Council might source funding in other ways.

13. TERMINATION OF THE CURRENT SIDS PROGRAMME BY SOMERSET CC (Information on the December agenda)

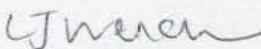
14. PLAYING FIELD

- Rat infestation and clearance of site (Cllr Jolliffe. Email sent to the landowner by the Clerk 29/11/17)
- Footpath to Silver St (Cllr Lewis)
- Signage for the eight overflow parking spaces (Cllrs Hudson and Lewis)
- Junior Multi play: Extract from Play Inspection: I have pointed out a couple of issues on the junior climber .At the end with the fireman's pole there is decay to the top of the upright timber post . It is

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difficult with timber to determine exactly how far the decay has got into the timber but I would recommend this is monitored regularly and in the short term filled to prevent further water ingress to the timber.

- Suspension bridge - the inspector commented that there appears to be too much movement in the bridge resulting in the platforms moving at either end. The risk occurs (low risk) if a child's hand was in the wrong place. Recommended to remove some of the slack in the suspension chains of the bridge.
 - Basket swing seat - following the tightening of the hanger it is recommended to fit secondary safety chains, replace missing post caps or fill holes to prevent water ingress and raise the height of the safety matting.
15. **CAR PARKING** Possible extra provision and survey of car parking at Village Hall (Cllr Jolliffe)
16. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** (Cllr Butt)
Erection of a double garage, replacement slate roof tiles, a new vehicular access and internal access track (retrospective) Location: 3 Kilmersdon Hill To Frome Road Kilmersdon BA3 5SS
17. **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT**
To receive any feedback relating to the garage at No. 3 Kilmersdon (at the September meeting it was agreed to put this back on the agenda in two months time. 29/11/17 Planning Enforcement Officer confirmed it was being looked into and they would respond shortly).
18. **NOTIFICATION BY MENDIP DC OF A PROPOSED LOCAL GREEN SPACE** (Information circulated on the December agenda)
19. **CORRESPONDENCE**
20. **OUTSIDE BODIES**
21. **TO CONFIRM COUNCILLOR DETAILS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN FOR THE WEBSITE**
22. **MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING**
23. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** 19th February 2018


Lesley Welch
Parish Clerk

Clerk@kilmersdonpc.co.uk

Tel: 07521 951471

www.kilmersdonpc.co.uk

To: Cllrs R Butt, S Gibbs, D Hudson, A Jolliffe, K Lewis (Vice Chair), R Morse (Chair)

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability) Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights

Minutes of the Kilmersdon Parish Council
held at the Coles Garden Meeting Room
at 7.30pm on Monday 20th November, 2017

PRESENT: Cllrs K Lewis (Vice Chair, in the Chair) , R Butt, S Gibbs, D Hudson.

ATTENDING: Two members of the public. L Welch, Parish Clerk.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Min
No | |
| 1. | APOLOGIES |
| 743 | Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Morse and Jolliffe. |
| 2. | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST |
| 744 | Cllr Hudson declared an interest in item 12 Planning Applications due to the trees being his. |
| 3. | MINUTES |
| 745 | The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 th October 2017 were approved and signed. |
| 4. | PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME |
| 746 | Temporary Shop/ Cafe - A member of the Community Shop and Cafe Committee gave an update on the Pre App which is being put in, which will include parking in the sheep field. It was expected this would take the form of a line of approximately 15 cars alongside the hedge, a track and then another line of 15 cars opposite it. A gate would be put in the fence at the other end in order to segregate the sheep from the cars. If this over flow parking is only used up to 28 times a year, it can be used under permitted development. |
| 747 | Another member of the public attended to watch the meeting with a view to considering standing as a Parish Councillor, with a particular interest in Agenda 21, 'think global, act local'. |
| 5. | FINANCIAL MATTERS |
| 748 | It was proposed by Cllr Hudson, seconded by Cllr Butt and agreed by the Parish Council that the financial expenditure below be approved. |

Payee	Detail	Gross	Net	Power	Ch no
Savills	Garage rent	£50	£41.67	LGA 1972, s111	001208
L Welch	Salary (Oct)	£241.62	£241.62	LGA 1972, s112	001209
L Welch	Quarterly web fee - 1&1	£17.96	£14.97	LGA 1972, s111	001210
Grant Thornton	External Audit	£120.00	£120.00	AAR 2011 (6)	001211

- 749 It was confirmed that the garage is used for storage of items such as salt.
- 750 The Parish Council received a cheque in the amount of £200 from the Village Day to be earmarked for the Village Sign at the top of the hill.

- 751 **Annual review of the Insurance Schedule** - The following items were agreed for change on the Insurance Schedule (1) Sums insured for play surfaces to be increased to £10,000 in line with the Fixed Asset Register; (2) Sums insured for the spiral garden to be added at a cost of £15,000 and the Clerk to check that vandalism is covered; (3) Noted that the garage is not insured and the Clerk to check with the Chairman whether there are any items stored within it which require insurance; (4) The Clerk to enquire about adding volunteers to the personal accident section in respect of litter picking and play park weekly inspections; (5) Clerk to alter the hirers' form for the playing field to indicate that the Parish Council's insurance excludes bouncy castles, fly walls, bungees and similar, catered food, bonfires, fireworks and organised sports and hazardous activities.
- 752 **Annual review of the risk assessment** - The risk assessment was considered in detail and it was noted that there are now five volunteers to do the weekly checks on the play park. The Clerk to ask the Chairman about whether fixed or portable electric tests should be undertaken at the garage.
- 753 **Final review of the Fixed Asset register** - The Fixed Asset Register was agreed pending confirmation of whether the bench at Jack and Jill Hill belongs to the Parish Council.
- 754 **2018/19 Budget** - The draft budget was discussed in detail and agreed in principle pending information on the tax base and precept calculation.

7. HIGHWAY MATTERS

- 755 **To receive any feedback on the request, via Cllr Pullen, at the last meeting for double white lines up the hill and the moving of the 30mph signs to their original positions** - Agreed to invite Cllr Pullen to the December meeting for an update.
- 756 **To receive any feedback from Cllr Drewe regarding the possibility of being part of local initiatives to reduce speed** - Agreed to invite Cllr Drewe to the December meeting for a specific update.
- 757 **Charlton Lane - feedback on the request for the pothole to be dealt with and a sign approaching the junction** - Noted that for safety, signs in both directions were needed and not just eastwards as suggested by the Highways Officer. There is no signage to warn and slow down the approaching traffic for cars turning right into Charlton Lane. The Clerk to inform the Highways Officer.
- 758 **Lights on Jack and Jill Hill** - The Clerk to inform Highways that lights are not working from the school down Jack and Jill Hill.

8. VILLAGE SIGN

- 759 It was noted that the village sign, estimated at £700, had received a contribution of £200 from the Village Day Committee. It was hoped that the remaining £500 might come from Highways to replace the damaged sign already in situ. This to be raised with Cllr Pullen at the next opportunity.

9. **GATES**

760 The Clerk to contact Somerset County Council directly for the Small Improvement Scheme grant forms in order to put in for a grant asap.

10. **PLAYING FIELD**

761 **Rat infestation and clearance of site** - The Clerk to contact Cllr Jolliffe to find out whether there is an update from Mr Edwards on the clearance of the overgrown site. Some rats had been seen on the road. If there is no update, the Clerk to contact Mr Edwards directly.

762 **Weekly play area checks - Agreed** that Cllr Lewis checks whether the work to the zip wire has been done and chase if it is outstanding. When the work is complete the Clerk to arrange the quarterly report from GB Sport and Leisure. The weekly checks by five volunteers are underway and the Parish Council expressed its gratitude to the volunteers and reviewed the items which require attention from the latest check sheet.

763 **Footpath to Silver Street** - it was noted that, being so well used, it gets very muddy between No. 1 and the overgrown patch. Ideally it needs hard core. Cllr Lewis to contact a local person for a quote.

764 **Signage for the eight overflow parking spaces** - Cllr Hudson confirmed that the Village Hall Committee has no objections to a sign on the village hall drawing attention to the 8 overflow parking spaces on the playing field. Cllr Lewis to obtain a quote, with a view to the Parish Council paying for this sign.

765 **Hedge between the car park and the road** - this needs cutting back on all sides and since budgetary provision has been made, the Clerk to ask the Chairman if this has been arranged, and if not, to contact SJH Services.

11. **CAR PARKING**

766 The Parish Council discussed the principle of allowing overflow parking in the sheep field and noted that Mendip DC might not agree to it due to the proximity of neighbouring junctions. There were mixed feelings about losing a section of the sheep field and general concern about how such works would be funded, the consensus being that it should not be funded by the Parish Council.

12. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

767 2017/2670/TCA Pollarding of Lime Tree, pruning of Willow and felling of Willow, 280 Kilmersdon Hill;
2017/2678/TCA Felling of 2 Ash trees, 68 School Lane;
2017/2743/TCA Felling of Oak, Kilmersdon School.
It was noted that the above planning applications had been agreed and that, because the deadline for comments was before the Parish Council meeting, the Parish Council had stated that it relied on the Tree Officer's comments.

13. **PLANNING ENFORCEMENT**

768 **Garage no 3, Kilmersdon** - It was noted that this enforcement issue was still outstanding and the Clerk to chase a response from the Enforcements Officer.

14. **DEVON AND SOMERSET DRAFT INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN**

769 The consultation on the Risk Management Plan was noted.

15. **KILMERSDON FARM BRIDGE**

770 Works at Kilmersdon Farm Bridge were noted.

16. **TEXTILE RECYCLING BANK**

771 The Parish Council agreed a three year Service Level Agreement on the textile recycling bank, which the Clerk would sign and return.

17. **CORRESPONDENCE**

772 **Grants** - Cllr Gibbs to chase the PCC for their grant request this year. The Parish Newsletter to be invited to write a letter of application for funds. The Council received a request from Mendip Community Transport for grant funding. The Clerk was asked to respond, enquiring about the frequency and number of people in the village benefiting from the service. Grants to go on the next agenda.

773 **Bench on Jack and Jill Hill** - The Council noted a photograph and details of the bench on Jack and Jill Hill which needs mending. The Jack and Jill Hill Committee has received a quote for £250 to mend and upgrade the bench with wider metal galvanised slats. **Agreed** that the Clerk enquires who owns the bench and if it belongs to the Parish Council to add it to the Fixed Asset Register and arrange the repairs as requested, using funds from the footpaths budget.

774 **Notification of External Audit appointment 2017/18** - The Council discussed correspondence notifying them that the new external auditor is PKF Littlejohn LLP at a cost of £200 per annum, but there is the opportunity to opt out as an exempt authority. Given that a comprehensive internal audit takes place, agreed to opt out of the external audit.

18. **OUTSIDE BODIES**

775 **PACT Meeting** - Cllr Morse had sent updated Crime Statistics and communicated the view that they did not reflect all problems and complaints experienced by residents. The next PACT meeting is in Kilmersdon on 24th January 2018 at 7.30pm at Coles Garden. **Agreed** that the Clerk adds this to the Parish Council report in the Parish Newsletter, encouraging local people to attend.

19. **BOX OF KILMERSDON RECORDS**

776 To be delivered to the Clerk now that she has moved.

20. **MATTERS OF REPORT AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

777 There were no items raised.

21. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

778 18TH December 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in the Coles Garden Meeting Room.

779 There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Kilmersdon Parish Council

Fixed Asset List at December 2017

Ref no	Description	Location	Date acquired	Value	Insurance value
1	Kilmersdon Road signs (2)	B3139	no record	£730	£730
2	Charlton Road signs (2)	B3139	no record	£730	£730
3	Double swings	Playing field	2002	£1,888	£1,888
4	Buzy Tower	Playing field	2013	£1	£10,910
5	Youth Shelter	Playing field	2002	£3,980	£3,980
6	Sports surfaces	Playing field	2004	£3,998	£3,998
7	Jubilee bench	Coles Garden	2012	£358	£358
8	Bench	Kilmersdon Hill	no record	£1	£358
9	Bench	Jack and Jill hill	no record	£1	£358
10	Zipwire	Playing field	2013	£1	£3,700
11	Grassmat	Playing field	2013	£1	£3,500
12	Train with slide	Playing field	2013	£1	£2,700
13	Matting	Playing field	2013	£1	£1,200
14	Trim trail	Playing field	2013	£1	£3,600
15	Goalposts	Playing field	2013	£1	£550
16	Spiral garden	Playing field	2014	£1	£12,961
17	Birds nest swing	Playing field	2013	£1	£875
18	See saw	Playing field	2013	£1	£600
19	Lenovo laptop v110 with Microsoft office and F secure software	Clerk's home	2017	£653	£653
20	OKI Scanner/printer	Clerk's home	2017	£170	£170
	Total value			£11,696.00	£52,996.00

Items donated to the Parish Council are valued at £1.

Explanation of the Precept calculation 2018 19

Using the figures from the draft budget, we can predict that the total net expenditure at year end 2017/18 will be £13,179.

This is £549 higher than budgeted, so we can expect to start the 2018/19 year with a balance in the bank of £17,927 (this being the balance in the bank at the start of the year, £18,476 minus £549).

Using the figures from the draft budget, the proposed total net expenditure for 2018/19 is £12,269.

If the precept remains the same as last year, £12,630, then an additional £361 will be generated to go into the general reserve, (this being £12,630 minus £12,269).

In terms of reserves, it is recommended to have 6 months net expenditure as a minimum cash flow reserve (£6135). We also have earmarked reserves of £8100. There is a predicted further £4,053 in general reserves. (This being the predicted balance in bank at 31/3/2019 of £18,288 minus £14,235 in cashflow and earmarked reserves).

KILMERSDON PARISH COUNCIL DRAFT BUDGET 2018 19

	2017/18		2018/19		Notes
	Budget months	Actual at 6 months	Estimate to year end	Draft budget	
EXPENDITURE					
Clerks Salary	2780.00	1946.88	3396.60	2950.00	Two Clerks' salaries in July. TN- 1463.64; LW 241.62 x 8:
Tax	695.00	351.20	891.20	736.00	Two Clerks' tax in July. TN-409.60 LW 60.20x8=481.60
Payroll admin	0.00	0.00	86.00	45.00	£43 per person per year
Office expenses					
Postage	140.00	39.12	100.00	100.00	
Stationery	40.00	30.00	50.00	50.00	
Website	0.00	53.88	71.84	76.84	
Recruitment ad	0.00	25.56	25.56	0.00	
IT security	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	
Hire of Meeting Rooms	200.00	122.00	200.00	206.00	Spent to date includes £30 gift card
Insurance	590.00	587.88	612.29	605.00	17.96 per quarter + £5 every 2 years
Audit	250.00	180.00	280.00	185.00	includes £30 APM
Subscriptions					2018 19 is third year of three year agreement. Premium is £180 internal audit. No external audit next year.
SALC	140.00	0.00	140.00	145.00	
SLCC	85.00	78.00	78.00	0.00	
C C for Somerset	35.00	0.00	35.00	35.00	
SPFA	10.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	
Grass Cutting	1200.00	1080.50	1582.70	1809.00	Cuts to end of Nov 226.10 x 8
Hedge trimming	180.00	0.00	180.00	180.00	
Village Cleaning/Tidying					
Footpaths	750.00	13.12	750.00	750.00	More frequent cuts requested 16/10/17 - £250 paid Oct 1
Playing Field					
Rent	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	
Garage	50.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	
Inspections	70.00	80.00	80.00	245.00	ROSPA £80; 3 quarterly checks £55
Play Equipment	2000.00	70.00	2000.00	2000.00	Repair zip wire and swings
Capital Expenditure					
Computer equipment	0.00	0.00	823.00	0.00	

S.137

General expenditure					
Street Lighting	180.00	88.75	180.00	180.00	
Contingency cover	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	
Village Day	30.00	0.00	30.00	30.00	30.00
Parish Magazine	400.00	0.00	400.00	400.00	
PCC	1300.00	0.00	1300.00	1300.00	
Ground Force	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	
Others					100.00
Total	11826.00	4762.89	14058.19	12318.84	130.00

Add to reserves at year end

s.137 limit for 2017/18 is £7.57 x 250=£1892.50

INCOME					
Playing Field hire	0	50	50	50	
Precept	12630	12630	12630	12630	
Bank interest	0	0	0	0	
Transparency grant	0	0	829.1	0	
Total	12630	12680	13509.1	12680	

£50 per day

804 7917.11 -549.09 361.16

Surplus/deficit

Kilmersdon Parish Council

Compiled 2nd January 2018

Budget Summary

Year Ending 31st March 2019

	2017/18		2018/19	<i>Budget</i>
	Projected	Budgeted	Proposed	Incr/Decr
REVENUE EXPENDITURE				
Expenditure	13235	11826	12319	493
	<u>13235</u>	<u>11826</u>	<u>12319</u>	<u>493</u>
INCOME				
	879	0	50	50
	<u>879</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
NET REVENUE EXPENDITURE	<u>12356</u>	<u>11826</u>	<u>12269</u>	<u>443</u>
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (NET)	823			
	<u>823</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	<u>13179</u>	<u>11826</u>	<u>12269</u>	<u>443</u>
Financed as follows				
Balance in bank at 1st April	18476		17927	
Balance in bank at 31st March	<u>17927</u>		<u>18288</u> **	
Used to Fund Expenditure	549		-361	
PRECEPT	12630	12630	12630	<u>0</u>
	<u>13179</u>	<u>11826</u>	<u>12269</u>	<u>0</u>
Band D Equivalent Tax Base	<u>229.12</u>	<u>229.12</u>	<u>224.13</u>	
Precept per Band D Equivalent	<u>£55.12</u>	<u>£55.12</u>	<u>£56.35</u>	<u>£1.23</u>

**Note: Recommended minimum reserve equal to 6 months net expenditure	6135
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<u>Earmarked Reserves</u>	<u>31/03/2017</u>	<u>31/03/2018</u> <i>(Projected)</i>	<u>31/03/2019</u> <i>(Projected)</i>
Play equipment reserve	7600	7600	7600
Street lighting contingency		500	500
	<u>7600</u>	<u>8100</u>	<u>8100</u>

Total cashflow and earmarked reserves	14235
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KILMERSDON PARISH COUNCIL RESERVES

	Earmarked Reserves at 1/4/17	Added to reserves at 31/3/18	Taken from reserves in 2017 18	Total
Earmarked reserves				
Play equipment fund (value of play equipment is £45,000)	-	-	-	-
Kilmersdon Play Park Committee transfer of funds for maintenance	2,600.00	-	-	2,600.00
Local Housing contribution to recreation ground maintenance	5,000.00	-	-	5,000.00
Street lighting contingency cover		500.00		500.00
Total	7,600.00			8,100.00

Cash flow reserve required to fund the 2018 19 budget

6 months net expenditure **6,135.00**

Balances at bank

	at 1/4/17
Current	3,364.45
Reserve	15,112.33
Total	18,476.78

Total cash at bank at 1/4/17
 plus estimated income to 2017 18 year end
 less estimated expenditure to 2017 18 year end
 Estimated balance at 2017 18 year end

18476.78
13509.10
14058.19
17927.69

Estimated income 2018 19
 Estimated expenditure 2018 19
 Estimated balance in bank at 31/3/19
 Total reserves (earmarked and cashflow)

12680.00
12318.84
18288.85
14235.00

Difference between estimated balance in bank and total reserves

4053.85

Draft precept statement for the website

Precept 2018/19

Kilmersdon Parish Council is not increasing its precept for 2018/19. The precept will remain the same as last year at £12,630.

Unusually, the tax base in Kilmersdon has gone down slightly from 229.12 to 224.13. Mendip DC has confirmed that this is because the tax base is calculated by working out the number of band D equivalent dwellings and then account for any properties where the full charge is not being paid eg empty properties, single occupancy, council tax support. Within the Parish, there has been an increase of five properties from last year to this but there has also been an increase of eight single occupancy households and one more where a disregard discount of 25% is being applied. The result is a drop in the number of households where the full council tax is being paid. This will account for the small decrease in the tax base and hence the small increase in the amount paid by an 'average' Band D household.

How and why are we freezing the precept this year?

Kilmersdon Parish Council faces the same inflationary increases in the cost of products and services as all organisations. However, with careful budgeting we are making savings in areas of postage and audit. We are slightly increasing our budget for grass cutting and annual/quarterly play equipment checks. We are freezing our budgeted amounts for grants.

Exactly what services does the Parish Council offer?

- The Parish Council is a statutory consultee on **planning applications** and provides a local voice on **highways** and **environmental matters**.
- The Parish Council manages the **play area** adjacent to the Village Hall.
- It supports the **parish environment** by paying for the street lighting at the Village Hall, grass cutting of the playing field and Jack and Jill hil, where it also funds the cutting back of the footpath and hedge trimming..
- The Parish Council supports **local organisations** through grant funding.
- It maintains some of the **benches** in the parish..

How did the Parish Council perform in the last year?

In 2017/18 the Parish Council worked closely to its budget, exceeding it by an estimated £549. A change of Clerk during the year and funding the Clerks' handover period accounted for some of this overspend, together with higher grass cutting costs and more frequent professional checks of the play equipment.

The Parish Council was delighted to support a number of local organisations through grant provision this year, amongst them the Parish Church and the Parish magazine. Provision was also made towards the repair of the bench on Jack and Jill hill.

The award of a grant from the Government's Transparency Fund allowed the Parish Council to purchase a laptop, software and a printer/scanner, at no cost to the people of Kilmersdon.

What is new for the next financial year?

The end of the predicted lifespan of the play equipment adjacent to the Village Hall means that the Parish Council expects to spend some of its earmarked reserves next year on play equipment. Provision has also been made for extra grass cutting.

Signage for parking at the Village Hall is being looked into, as is the signage on entering the village.

The Parish Council is working to represent the people of Kilmersdon and make decisions in the best interests of the village. We welcome your views and input.

Kilmersdon Parish Council
clerk@kilmersdonpc.co.uk
Tel 07521 951471

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Councillors corre...

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L Lesley



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Local Councils

to me

Dear Lesley,

Please note that the Council must possess insurable interest in any assets that they w
interest is demonstrated by either owning the asset or accepting responsibility for fu
stolen, damaged or destroyed.

Therefore, under the current arrangements that you outlined, the Council do not pos
and are consequently unable to cover the item under their policy. We recommend th
to arrange their own Public Liability Insurance to cover the defibrillator.

However, if the Council were to accept responsibility, I am pleased to confirm that th
damage cover for up to £5,000 worth of defibrillators and cabinets. Public Liability In:
automatically for the Council's responsibilities towards the defibrillator.

Should the Council wish to proceed down this route, we recommend regular checks c
recorded in writing on the Council's records to spot obvious signs of breakage or van
working order. Please find attached a guide produced by Resuscitation Council (UK) a
details how external defibrillators can be deployed within the community.

I trust this is of assistance but if you have any queries please contact me.

Kind regards