

EXTRAORDINARY MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2017 AT 10.00 AM IN THE PARISH OFFICE, BRANNON  
WAY, WOOTTON BRIDGE.

Present: Councillor Steve Porter – Vice Chairman  
Councillors Barrie Hailstone, Pete Mundell, Barbara Port, Carole Wolton, Daryll Pitcher and Linda Pitcher

Also present 0 Members of the Public  
0 Member of the press  
Liz Kingston - Parish Clerk

**Items raised in the Open Forum:**

None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

**17/020.** Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ken Morris and Councillor Barry Abraham.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**17/021.** None

3. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERKS REPORT AND TO AGREE ANY ACTION TO BE TAKEN.

**17/022. To set the Council tax precept for 2017/2018**

The Council tax precept for 2017/2018 had been discussed at meetings on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017. Discussion took place at the meeting about Wootton Bridge already investing substantially in devolved services as well as the Parish Council's current reserves. (Appendix A)

The majority view was that the suggested precept of £71,000 allowed for the potential deficient for this coming year and took into account the potential surplus for the current year.

**RESOLVED – THAT THE PRECEPT FOR 2017/18 WOULD BE SET AT £71,000 (SEVENTY ONE THOUSAND POUNDS)**

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 10.30 a.m.

Signed .....

Date .....

**WOOTTON BRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT 2017/18 - BUDGET ESTIMATES.**  
**RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER BUDGET REPORT.**

The Parish Council income and expenditure does not follow any business pattern. This is due to the uncertainty of our capital income which is mostly down to successful grant bids and sponsorship. Therefore, the estimates for income are again tight with very little room for manoeuvre.

**Our only guaranteed income is the precept.**

Capital: Our capital costs are largely funded by grants. Grant funding has largely dried up at the moment.

Revenue: The precept largely funds the Parish Council's revenue costs.

**MAJOR PROJECTS/ THREE YEAR PLAN.**

1. Youth Clubs  
We funded the junior youth club in Oct/Nov 2016, via a donation of £10,000 to Wootton Bridge CIC. I feel, especially in light of the potential cuts by the local authority that we need to keep at least this amount or more for the coming year.
3. Recreation Ground  
The Parish Council agreed to contribute towards the costs of maintaining the grounds. This cost £5,000 during 2016/17; therefore I feel we need to keep at least this amount for the coming year.
4. Election Costs  
Our reserves are now standing at approximately £1000. We will have to pay approximately £1,500 for the coming elections in May and if we have any further elections this will cost approximately £3,100. I would therefore like to increase the election reserves by £5,000.
5. Enforcement Plan  
The Parish have agreed to the enforcement officer which will cost at least £2080 for the year.

**REVENUE COSTS.**

It is not anticipated that the revenue costs will change significantly over the next 3 years.

**GENERAL FUND**

I estimate that the balance of the General Fund at 31.3.2017 will be £37655. It is strongly recommended that the balance of the General Fund should not fall below £30,000.

We are currently looking at a £3,286 deficit for 17/18 and a potential surplus of £1192 for this current tax year. Therefore the shortfall is £2094.

Please also note that it is VITAL to keep a good general fund for match funding purposes which, when successful, can result in a 100% return

**Continued .....**

**RECOMMENDATION – THAT THE COUNCIL TAX PRECEPT FOR 2017/2018 BE SET AT A MINIMUM OF £71,000**

On an estimated tax base of 1382.9 and as a guide only a council tax precept of £71,000 will convert as follows:-

For a Band D property:

	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2015/16</b>
	<b>Estimated</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Precept</b>	<b>68526</b>	<b>64693</b>	<b>62950</b>
<b>Grant</b>	<b>2474</b>	<b>4307</b>	<b>6050</b>
<b>Annual Cost</b>	<b>49.55</b>	<b>47.80</b>	<b>46.74</b>
<b>Weekly Cost</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>0.90</b>

Liz Kingston  
Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

27.1.17

## Wootton Bridge Parish Council – Precept 2017/18

Last year's council tax precept was £69,000 (£64693 and grant of £4307) which represented £47.80 per annum per household at Band D or 92p p.w. This was based on 1353.4 households.

We have prepared precept figures as follows for 2017/2018 (based on 1382.9\* equivalent households at Band D and a grant of £2474).

Amount of Precept	(explanation)	Annual equivalent per household	Weekly equivalent per household
£64693 (as last year)		£47.80 (based on 1353.4 equivalent households at Band D)	92 p per week
£67526 (£70000)		£48.83 (+1.03)	94p per week (+ 2p)
£68526 (£71000)		£49.55 (+1.75)	95p per week (+ 3p)
£69526 (£72000)		£50.28 (+2.48)	97p per week (+ 5p)
£70526 (£73000)		£51.00 (+3.20)	98p per week (+6p)
£71526 (£74000)		£51.72 (+3.92)	99p per week (+7p)

