

**Draft Budget and Precept Request for 2026/27
For Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This paper outlines the final budget request proposed following discussions at finance committee and full council meetings.
- 1.2 Changes since the last discussion at a full council meeting, include a reduced pension commitment due to contributions changing in April 26 and an increased budget for public participation.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Budgets and Precept Requests for Derry Hill & Studley Parish Council and the former Calne Without Parish Council for the previous four years have been:

Year	Budget	Precept Request	Annual Precept for Band D Property
2025/26	£44,046	£44,046	£52.95
2024/25	£36,683	£32,980	£21.72
2023/24	£32,097	£32,097	£21.72
2022/23	£30,633	£30,633	£21.72

Notes:

1. The large budget increase in 25/26 was due to boundary changes and a smaller tax base.
2. The Budget for 2024/25 was part-funded from interest on Council Reserves.
3. Small budget increases have been accommodated, without increasing the Precept for each property due to an increasing tax base following new developments.

- 2.2 The Budget and Precept Request for 2026/27 will be the second for the new Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council following the implementation of the Community Governance Review changes.

3. Draft Budget for Derry Hill & Studley Parish Council 2025/26

- 3.1 The following Draft Budget for Running Costs has been amended since the last council meeting by the Finance Committee. (A spreadsheet version will also be circulated for ease of reference):

DERRY HILL AND STUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
BUDGET DEVELOPMENT 2026-27
RUNNING COSTS

Spending Category	Actual Spend 2021-22	Actual Spend 2022-23	Actual Spend 2023-24	Approved Budget 2024-25	Approved Budget 2025-26	Spend to Date (Apr to Nov '25)	Commentary	Proposed Budget 2026-27 Current cost base	Inflation Allowance	Proposed Budget 2026-27	Potential Reduction	Comments
1 Training	£1,606.61	£418.45	£1,301.36	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	£747.00	ongoing training only required as reduced budget	£1,000.00	0.00%	£1,000.00	£0.00	
2 Hall Hire	£270.99	£530.80	£797.60	£735.00	£450.00	£261.80	(19) 10 full council meetings, 4 finance committee meetings, 1 HR meeting, 1 annual meeting, 3 engagement and participation meeting 2.5 hours each, current rate 12.45/hour	£591.37	2.50%	£606.15	£0.00	18/11/25 may be amended to reflect potential more of meetings to did meeting room £11.25/hour should know by the committee meeting
3 Clerk	£11,970.11	£13,737.68	£15,604.45	£17,644.23	£18,838.30	£12,229.97	Updated for 2026/27 pay rate. Have included for pension uplift and NI employer contribution, have allowed for 2026/27 as inflation allowance.	£18,760.88	3.50%	£19,417.51	£0.00	Salary: £18.85/hr x 15hrs/week x 52weeks/yr = 17.7% uplift for pension + employer contribution at (Salary - £5,000) * 10% might need to be reduced once we see what impact inspire magazine has on hours, haven't included the 2 hours approved overtime allowed by staff contract.
4 Insurance	£780.14	£712.28	£747.18	£747.18	£850.00	£817.49	second year of a three year term, £17.49	£817.49	0.00%	£817.49	£0.00	
5 Audit	£456.00	£595.00	£530.00	£566.50	£445.88	£665.00	Audit costs: Internal: £225 External: income related - £210 for £25-50k; £315 for £50-£100k; £420 for £100-£200k. (Fee scale updated with updated rates.)	£340.00	2.50%	£553.50	£0.00	Internal audit costs the same, external audit costs £15 income over £50,000 with CL money.
IT Services	£2,954.60	£1,395.99	£2,872.92				Ongoing costs of: Web hosting @ £99.00; Office 365 Business Standard Licence @ £135.36; ESET Anti Virus Licence @ £10.50; SQL Certificate @ £50.00; Office 365 E1 Licence x 2 @ £172.80; ICO Registration @ £47.00; Doc Library plugin @ £74.80; Remote IT support - assume £1,000 based on pay-as-you-go arrangement as new cirs will require ongoing support. Camera 1200	£1,689.46	2.50%	£1,731.70	£0.00	
IT Development	£1,958.16	£949.12					Website maintenance & limited development & support at £150 per quarter. Scribe at £444 per annum/licence Print & Online at £128	£1,172.00	2.50%	£1,201.30	£0.00	Price of scribe amended to £444, advised of price rise 10/10/25
Email System	£944.00	£873.60	£2,872.92	£3,000.87	£3,384.61	£991.46	£1 x £84.00 for MS365 Business Basic.	£640.90	2.50%	£656.92	£0.00	
IT and email provision			£2,872.92	£3,000.87	£3,384.61	£991.46						
9 Bin Emptying	£1,377.00	£1,290.00	£2,157.00	£4,212.00	£2,106.00	£1,234.68	7 bins emptied weekly 5 dog waste bins @£6.90 2 rubbish bins @£4.00	£2,106.00	2.50%	£2,158.65	£0.00	
Election Provision	£946.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00	£760.00	Assume that new council will inherit a proportion of the current election reserve, but may need to replenish following May 25 elections.	£500.00	0.00%	£500.00	£0.00	
11 Petty Cash	£113.89	£132.98	£1.46	£100.00	£0.00	£0.00	Reduced to £0	£0.00	0.00%	£0.00	£0.00	
Equipment and Facility Inspection and Maintenance	£453.96	£1,234.41	£2,483.56	£2,834.12	£1,511.88	£2,276.50	Decided at finance committee June 25 to create a maintenance reserve of £1500, overrident this year so starting afresh requesting full amount of £1500	£1,500.00	0.00%	£1,500.00	£0.00	
13 Credit Card & bank charges	£37.38	£183.22	£32.00	£32.00	£83.00	£81.75	Cost of credit card = £32 per year. Have added for bank charges at £4.25 per month	£83.00	0.00%	£83.00	£0.00	
Office Supplies			£281.80	£300.00	£300.00	£143.33	reduced to £295.	£250.00	0.00%	£250.00	£0.00	
14 Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)	£208.00	£171.00	£177.00	£185.85	£187.58	£190.00	Allow for last year + inflation	£190.00	2.50%	£194.75	£0.00	
15 Wiltshire Association of Local Councils (WALC)	£1,054.04	£883.19	£889.93	£935.48	£565.00	£634.76	Revised estimate based on smaller parish.	£634.76	2.50%	£650.83	£0.00	
17 Public Participation, Exhibitions, Events, Advertising and Communication	£1,842.21	£2,015.09	£3,938.13	£3,000.00	£1,640.00	£2,574.85	Remembrance Sunday road closure @ £987 reduced printing cost as most messages can go in inspire magazine	£1,500.00	2.50%	£1,537.50	£0.00	updated following Oct full council meeting
31 Accountancy / payroll	£0.00	£135.00	£225.00	£0.00	£184.50	£45.00	Payroll costs at £45/quarter	£180.00	2.50%	£184.50	£0.00	
Additional allowance for Playground					£1,500.00	£0.00	grass cutting not needed this first year, but a very dry year, recommend keeping £500 for grass cutting and £1000 for maintenance/replacement reserve	£1,500.00	0.00%	£1,500.00	£0.00	
Inspire						£548.00	additional costs of up to 4 extra paper copies of the magazine	£2,400.00	1%	£2,400.00		small increase in the amount requested to cover Inspire, instead we could allocate the interest accrued over the last year from savings accounts.
Community groups grants					£5,000.00	£5,000.00	full grant allocated this year	£5,000.00			£5,000.00	
Projects					£5,000.00		£1000 was allocated to public participation budget for vs day road closure					
Community Committee support								£1,000.00			£1,000.00	
TOTAL	£26,679.20	£25,282.81	£34,913.31	£36,683.23	£44,046.75	£33,622.99		£42,055.86				
Change to 25/26 Budget:								-4.5%		-2.8%		
Estimated Tax Base of New Parish								772.47	Initial indication from WC of tax base			
Estimated Precept charge for New Parish:								£55.59	For a Band D Property			
Usage Increase:								9%	Against 2025/26 band D rate of £52.95			

Element	Budget	Early estimate from Wiltshire Council of this years tax base	Resulting Precept for Band D Property
Running Costs	£37943.60	772.47	
Grants to Community Groups	£5,000	772.47	
Total	£42943.60	772.47	£55.59

Parish or Town Council	Precept for band D property for 2025/26 £ per year
Chippenham Town Council	£321.28
Calne Town Council	£260.19
Chippenham Without Parish Council	£130.36
Bromham Parish Council	£98.61
Rowde Parish Council	£97.73
Lacock Parish Council	£79.50
Compton Bassett Parish Council	£70.12
Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council	£52.95
Cherhill Parish Council	£49.21
Hilmarton Parish Council	£42.27
Heddington Parish Council	£41.25
Bremhill Parish Council	£36.22

4. Recommendation

That the Parish Council approves the final Budget and precept request for 2026/27 for the Derry Hill and Studley Parish Council.