

Idmiston Parish Council Budget/Precept 2021/2022

The increase in the Band D precept of £2.70 per month has been required by the use of reserves for the Bourne Cemetery sewage pipe repair, and the requirement to repair the All Saints Idmiston churchyard wall in future years, improved Parish maintenance, the replacement of the zip wire at Gomeldon, together with additional costs to the grounds-maintenance contract occasioned by additional grass cutting and bin / dog bin emptying.

There are Community Infrastructure Levy monies due, which will back the general reserves (good governance and best practice suggests that is 6 months of forecast expenditure). The S106 monies derived from the Barley Fields Idmiston Road Porton, and Chalk House 50 Winterslow Road developments must be spent at Porton Recreation Ground.

S106/CIL

s106 funding, and CIL funding have different legal backgrounds.

- **S106 funding** - under S106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended, contributions can be sought from developers towards the costs of providing community and social infrastructure, the need for which has arisen as a result of a new development taking place. It mitigates the impact of the development in that area.
- This funding is commonly known as 'Section 106', and the amounts and areas which will benefit are included in a legal agreement between the Planning Authority and the developer.
- There are often trigger points included when the developer is required to pay over the funds to the Planning Authority, and the funds must be spent on the specific areas of benefit stipulated in the agreement.
- Funds are allocated to Parish Councils to spend on Outdoor Leisure. The PC decides on what it wishes to spend the funds, obtains WC's agreement, then spends the money, requesting transfer of the funds once the invoice is received. The funds must be spent within 5 years of receipt by Wilts Council.
- The developer can reclaim the funds if they remain unspent, or if they were not spent in accordance with the agreement.
- **CIL funding** – this is charged to fund growth in an area in line with the appropriate policies set out in the Planning Authority's strategic Planning Framework and replaced s106 arrangements in May 2015.
- It is charged on the square meterage of the total gross internal area of the development and is calculated once planning permission is given.
- The developer must advise the Planning Authority when the development begins, and the PA will then issue a demand notice, which specifies the date(s) when the required amount(s) must be paid.
- Note that CIL funding does not need to be spent in the area of development which requires its payment.
- 15% of the total CIL funding must be paid over to the relevant Parish Council, which increases to 25% if the parish has a "made" Neighbourhood Plan – which Idmiston does.

Again, the funds must be spent within 5 years of payment to WC, and the funds can be spent on both capital and/or revenue expenditure within the parish.

Breakdown of tax bands (Original 1991 valuations)

Band	Valuation	Fraction	%age of Band D
A	£40,000 and below	6/9	67%
B	£40,000 to £52,000	7/9	78%
C	£52,000 to £68,000	8/9	89%
D	£68,000 to £88,000	9/9	100%
E	£88,000 to £120,000	11/9	122%
F	£120,000 to £160,000	13/9	144%
G	£160,000 to £320,000	15/9	167%
H	£320,000 and over	18/9	200%

Questions & Answers

Q1 - Sewer Pipe - OK, but why are we parishioners having to pay for the sewer pipe re-routing in the first place? WE didn't dig the original up and try to hide the evidence. The IPC had access to maps from Wessex Water in August 2014 courtesy of the Neighbourhood Planning team, so it was a documented hazard that seems to have caused all this work.

A1 Unfortunately, although the utility search was undertaken, the map was not forwarded to the mapping company with the instruction to map the grave spaces. Hence the IPC was clearly at fault. The inevitable happened, but because the grave digger did not stop, nor advise the IPC about what had happened – indeed, parts of the broken sewer pipe were thrown over the hedge and were discovered later – the IPC was able to pass on to the funeral director the £8,000.00 emergency repair bill charged by Wessex Water.

Q2 – Additional responsibilities - As I believe no precept cap has been set by government this year, can an explanation for the 60% increase and details of the Parish Council additional responsibilities be given and their costs. Are there extra services to be undertaken by the Parish, that are no longer provided by the County Council.

A2 – see A1 and explanation above.

Q3 -Sewer Pipe - It appears that the Parish financial reserve was spent on repairing a broken drain (damaged by the contractor) in the common burial ground in Porton. Who was responsible for this and could it not have been claimed on insurance?

A3 – see A1 and explanation above.

Q4 – Church property - Where does responsibility rest for maintaining church property? (Reference future repairs to the church wall mentioned as a new cost in the Dec 2020 minutes)

A4 The IPC is responsible for maintaining the churchyard, trees, and boundary walls of both All Saints Idmiston and St Nicholas Porton. The Churches Conservation Trust is responsible for the All Saints Idmiston church building, whilst the Parochial Church Council is responsible for the St Nicholas Porton church building.

Q5 Housing - To provide a summary of developments of new houses being built and already approved to be built and how this is in harmony with the Neighbourhood Plan. How much money does the Parish get from these developers for this and what is it being spent on?

A5 There is a target of 32 houses to be built between 2015 and 2026 within the Neighbourhood Plan. To date, 48 houses have received planning permission, 16 houses in excess of the agreed maximum. (Minutes September19)

S106 funding from both the Barley Fields development (£56.2k) and from the Chalk House development (£35.9k) must be spent at Porton Recreation Ground. The IPC is planning to enhance the drainage and add to the current play equipment offering.

Q6 - Consultation Would you kindly refer me to the consultations which must have been exercised to result in such a massive increase this year, please.

A6 Parish councils are entirely dependent organisations ie they do not receive grant funding from central government as the principal authorities do – in this case, Wiltshire Council. As a result, they are not capped, ie restricted to an amount by which they may raise the precept, as the precept is, for most parish councils, the only source of income available to finance their activities.

They are not obliged to formally consult with residents, but all residents are entitled to attend parish council meetings, and the budget/precept meetings are no exception. All meetings – the formal notice, agenda and minutes are displayed on 3 noticeboards in the parish – at the bus shelter on Church Road, Idmiston, outside Porton Village shop, and by the bus shelter on East Gomeldon – and on the parish website.

Q7 – Steep increase - Please tell me what the reasoning and justification is for the steep rise in PC contribution this year. It is extraordinarily high.

A7 – Please see the explanation above.