

SOUTH SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL**Budget 2019/20****Full Council – 18 December 2018****1. Introduction**

The Finance & Staffing Committee considered a draft budget at their meeting on 28 November 2017. The budget to be agreed at this meeting has been prepared based on direction given by Councillors at this meeting.

2. Report Details

- 2.1** The draft budget has been drawn up by the Deputy Clerk and Clerk and then the Chair and Vice-Chair have reviewed the budget and made some changes. The draft budget has then been considered at the Finance & Staffing Committee Meeting on 20 November 2018. That draft budget has now been reproduced as a basis for the final budget and Precept setting.
- 2.2** The report that went to the Finance & Staffing Committee Meeting highlighted areas where the budget was reduced or increased and the reasons for the decision. Councillor had an opportunity at this meeting to make changes.
- 2.3** The draft budget includes the costings for the Parish Council to employ a further 2 Parish Rangers and a new part-time position for one year to look at community engagement; additional grant funding; Coate Water mural; magnificent meadows; cleansing carts and a second vehicle. The income has been calculated on the current charges and with the exception of allotment fees for non-parishioners, there is no proposal to increase any other charges.
- 2.4** The Parish Council has now been formally notified of the Council Tax Base for 2019/20 and this figure will be 18,386.7; compared with 18,024.5 for this year. The additional 362.2 added to the base will mean that an additional £41,616.78 can be added to the budget for next year without their being any increase to the Council Tax. The additional £41K has been used to provide the additional costs highlighted in 2.3.
- 2.5** The full Budget pages are attached and the new lines of income or expenditure have been highlighted. A summary sheet is also attached which details the income and expenditure for this year and the proposed income and expenditure for 2019/20. The final attachment is the page for the Council Tax leaflet which will be displayed on Swindon Borough Council's website.

It shows that the Precept can be set at £2,112,554 and the Council Tax will remain the same as this year.

- 2.6** The only issue to be confirmed is the future of Town Gardens and Queens Park and I am waiting for confirmation that these assets will be transferred by Swindon Borough Council. This report should follow tomorrow to confirm that this has all been approved by Swindon Borough Council.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1** That the draft budget for 2019/20 is approved.
- 3.2** That the Precept for 2019/20 be set at £2,112,554.