

Woughton Community Council

Serving the Residents of Beanhill, Coffee Hall, Eaglestone,
Leadenhall Netherfield, Peartree Bridge and Tinkers Bridge



It's Your budget and your views matter

On January 15th 2018 Your Community Council will finalise the budget and precept (Council Tax) for next year. We have published a draft budget for consultation and we are now seeking your views

There are three main ways you can have your say

- A) Complete the survey overleaf and return it to us via FREEPOST (no stamp needed) or Complete it on line at www.woughtoncommunitycouncil.gov.uk
- B) Come along to one of our consultation meetings taking place in early January at The Hub on Coffee Hall (by the shops on Garraways). These will be on Friday 5th January at 2:00pm and Monday 8th January at 7:00pm.
- C) Write to us by letter or e mail with your views

What are we proposing

The draft budget for your community council is shown opposite. The Community Council only accounts for a small percentage of your overall Council Tax bill. The proposals have been developed following earlier consultation about your priorities. In particular we are proposing to increase funding to our new Woughton Cares project, looking at ways of providing advice and support services to our elderly, disabled, young people and those with needs and challenges. Tackling loneliness, providing housing, financial and benefits advice and giving all our residents new opportunities. This is in addition to continuing and improving our regular services which includes landscape maintenance, youth services, grants to resident associations and local groups. The provision of dog bins and litter bins, environmental improvements including tackling fly tipping and such like.

It's a draft budget that we believe responds to your concerns. Typically this year the average household paid approximately £2.44 a week towards Woughton Community Council services. The proposal is to increase that by just less than 16p per week in order to improve the services we can offer. Some people pay more than this, and others less, depending in which Council Tax Band you are in, whether you enjoy a 25% reduction as a single adult discount, whether you are on benefits or in some cases whether your property has significant disabled adaptations. The actual increase you will have to pay will in fact vary between less than 3p per week to nearly 47p per week.

We would like your views now on this. Does this seem about right? Is it too much? Or too little? Should we provide more services, if so what would be your priorities? If less what should we cut?

We would look forward to hearing from you over the next few weeks

Kevin Wilson

Kevin Wilson

Leader Woughton Community Council

Expenditure

Affiliations	£2,500
Capital Loan Repayment	£24,078
Events & Carnival	£8,000
Ward Initiatives Fund	£3,800
Dog & Litter Bin Costs	£6,000
Grant Aid	£17,500
Landscaping Costs	£45,000
Meeting Places	£35,000
Member Expenses inc IT	£16,500
External Communications	£9,000
Office Costs and Admin	£57,500
Community Projects and Services	£52,000
Training & Development	£10,000
Staffing Costs (see overleaf)	£530,000
Expenditure Total	£816,878

Income

Bank and Investment interest	£1,500
MKC LCTRS Grant (see overleaf)	£151,960
Hire of Meeting Places	£25,000
Landscape Grant	£151,900
Precept	£474,049
Additional Income Generation	£20,000
Income total	£824,409
Profit/(Loss) during Year	£7,532
Balances Brought Forward	£215,000
Balances Carried Forward	£222,531
Precept (see overleaf)	£202
Council Tax Base	£2,341

Some important notes to the budget

Staffing Costs. The costs of employing staff is by far the biggest element of our Budget

The total staffing costs are broken down as follows

Services Staff (Youth, Environment, Meeting Places, Advice and Community Services) £ 270.819

Landscaping Staff £ 134.678

Corporate, Administration and Finance £ 124,503

The LCTS Grant is a temporary cushion provided by MK Council to partly offset residents in receipt of Council Tax Benefits

The Precept is shown as the precept levied on a Band D House with two or more adults. Very few of our households are in this category

Your Views

Which estate do you live on? _____

Which Age Bracket are you in? Under 20 20-40 40-60 60-80 Over 80

What services (if any) would you like to see Woughton Community Council providing more of?

What services (if any) do you think Woughton Community Council should provide less of?

Is the proposal to increase the Council Tax by about 16p average per week per household to provide more and better services for local people

About Right ? **Too Low ?** **Too High ?**

If you have any other views or opinions please include a separate sheet of paper

Optional

Name _____ **Address** _____

Telephone _____ **E Mail** _____

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Budget Consultation, Woughton Community Council FREEPOST WOUGHTON