

## **Bitteswell with Bittesby Parish Council 2021-2022 Budget Statement**

The Parish Council raises revenue to help meet its spending requirements by issuing a 'precept'. This is the total amount to be raised through the council tax from all the dwellings within the parish area. The 'precept' is converted into an amount per council tax band and this forms part of the council tax bill.

Each year the Parish Council decides what precept they need to set by looking at spending to date in the current financial year, projected spending for the coming year, future plans and any other income they may have.

The Parish Council at its meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021 resolved to approve the budget and precept requirement for 2021-2022.

1. The precept requirement for 2021-2022 is £22,445.
2. The Council Tax requirement for 2021-2022 is £92.37 per Band D property. This is an increase of 7.9% or £6.80 in Council Tax.
3. NALC (the National Association of Local Councils) recommend that Parish Councils keep General Reserves at a level of between three and twelve 12 months precept. Therefore, to maintain adequate financial reserves, the Council has allocated £2,000 under 'General Reserves'. This includes part of a contingency to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies.
4. The Parish Council agreed to continue adding £200 to its Reserves to cover the costs of replacing the clerk's office equipment as required.
5. The Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Bitteswell with Bittesby. As some of the costs involved may not be covered by grant funding, £2,750 has been earmarked towards this.
6. The Parish Council is taking legal advice to resolve a long-standing issue relating to The White Cottage. To cover this cost £1,000 has been added to the budget.