

Allendale Parish Council has prepared a draft budget to support the calculation of the precept for the year April 2023 – March 2024. This precept is added on to the council tax for all residential properties in the parish.

The parish council is proposing to reduce the parish precept for the next year, as some major works have been completed, and in consideration of the economic pressure that parishioners may be facing.

The budget and the parish precept will be finalised at the January meeting of the parish council, as the figures will be provided to Northumberland County Council in January. Feedback can be made in writing to the clerk, or to parish councillors, or by attending the January meeting.

Item	Budget 2022/23	Actual spend to Oct 22	Expected spend to Mar 23	Budget 2023/24	Notes
Administration					
Audit	300	300	300	300	
Hall Hire	500	145	215	400	
Insurance	2000	1590.88	1590.88	2000	
IT Equipment	900	824.99	824.99	0	
Other admin costs	115	0	0	0	
printing, stationery and postage	100	40	40	100	
Subscription fees	410	404.87	404.87	410	Association memberships
Training	200	80	80	200	
Website subscription	75	75	75	75	
Provision for election reserve	500			0	
Accounting System & IT subs	0	508.98	508.98	300	
Chair's allowance	0		68	0	
Cemetery					
General Maintenance		130	130	0	
Cemetery Grass Cutting	5000	1848	1900	2200	
Ground maintenance	2500	2500	2500	500	22/23 includes scheduled tree surgery
Chapel maintenance	1000	48	48	1000	

Donations (\$137)	5000	2650	5000	5000
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Villages

Villages Grasscutting	5000	3690	4000	4500	Allendale, Catton and Recreation Ground
Allenheads Trust	550	550	550	550	to Allenheads Trust, maintenance contribution
Recreation Ground	500	500	500	500	to Village hall, maintenance contribution
Catton WI	50	50	50	50	annual contribution for planters and beds
Plants, trees and shrubs	2000	44	44	1000	includes tree surgery
Litter picking	1200	500	900	1200	ongoing contract
Village tidying	200	120	200	200	edging, pruning etc
Monuments maintenance				3000	Lychgate repairs
Vehicle activated speed signs		499.55	499.55	500	contract for maintenance of Catton signs
Public toilet charges	0	0	2000	2000	NCC charge for winter opening

Machinery

Maintenance	1000	248.69	400	900	
New Equipment		200	200	0	
Mower Hire Purchase	100	90	90	100	
Petrol and oil	1000	767.88	800	1000	seasonal Mar-Oct

Play areas

Allenfields		70	200	200	Inspection and repair
Denefields		70	200	200	Inspection and repair

Staff

Clerk Salary, Tax & pension	12000	6979.61	12000	13000
Payroll services	1000	586.2	900	1000

Street Furniture

Benches	500	0	500	0	replacement for Allenheads bench
Waste bins	310	0	310	300	new and replacements
Bench Restoration	1190	1190	1190	1190	3-year contract
Planters			100	100	replacements needed for existing planters

Total Payments **45200** **27301.65** **39319.27** **43975**

Income Category	Budget 2022/23	Actual income to Oct 22	Expected income to Mar 23	Budget 2023/24	Notes
Bank Interest		2.51	4		
Allotments fees			25	25	
Cemetery fees		1310	1310		difficult to predict burial fees
Grants		2000	2000		grant for Lychgate repair
Grasscutting costs recovery			1200	1200	NCC pay us for cutting St Cuthberts and Wentworth
Precept	49200	49200	49200	41000	
Sundry Income		150	150		compensation from bank
Total Income	49200	52662.51	53889	42225	

	Actual Oct 22	Expected Mar 23	
Cash In hand	80589	69771.38	includes b/f reserves

	B/f April 2022	change 2022/23	C/f Mar 2023	
Ear-marked reserves				
Elections	1000		1000	possible election 2024
Market Square	2000	2000	4000	estimated costs planned projects = £20K
Admin Equipment		200	200	add £200 pa for 5 years for future pchs
Mower replacement provision		3000	3000	new mower expected in 4 years
Cemetery Shed		5000	5000	estimated figure £5000
Allotments creation		3500	3500	
Denefields play area	16371	-200	16171	contractual reserve - cash provided by Denefields developer
<i>Total ear-marked reserves</i>			<i>32871</i>	
General reserve			36900	operational reserves should be between 3 and 12 months operational costs

Project Planning for 2023/24 onwards

Market Square

Remaining major work is to resurface the triangle which is estimated at £16K based on previous resurfacing, plus 4K estimated costs for highway changes. This will be done when enough reserve funds are available.

Cemetery Shed

Secure storage for machinery and tools is needed. Proposal is for a small steel container which may then be clad in timber.

Creating Allotments

The parish council is looking at creating further allotments. Costs of the necessary work is estimated at £10K over three years, excluding land purchase.

Bus Shelters

There is an intention to put bus shelters in Catton and then in Allendale Town. These may be partly or wholly funded from county council allowances. We don't have a date for this yet.

Speed traffic signs on Leadgate

There is an intention to replace the speed bumps on Leadgate with speed indicator signs like those in Catton. These may be partly or wholly from county council allowances. The parish council will need to meet the annual service cost of about £500, in the same way as the existing signs in Catton. We don't have a date for this yet.