COLLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Parish Clerk Caron Ballantyne

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Council tax – Parish Council Precept

Every year around this time council tax bills start dropping through the letter box. Whilst the vast majority of this goes to Nottinghamshire County and Newark and Sherwood Councils a small amount comes to Collingham Parish council. This is the precept which pays for all the services Collingham Parish Council is responsible for including; emptying of dog waste bins, play park safety inspections, grass cutting etc.

For every band D property in Collingham the parish Council receives around £21. Unfortunately the services that Collingham Parish Council provides do not come free and in line with everything else costs have risen. The Parish Council is therefore asking for a 7% increase on the amount we receive as part of your council tax bill, this amounts to less than £1.50 on an average band D properties bill.

In the last few years there have been an additional 30 houses built in the village whilst the amount Collingham Parish Council receives has stayed the same. Therefore without this increase Collingham Parish Council would be losing money.

I hope you agree that the Parish Council in recent times is value for money with initiatives in the last year such as the Defibrillators in the village, the new play park and the annual Christmas lights being particular highlights. I can assure you that this increase will mean that the council just breaks even on its expenditure and if you have any questions I am more than happy to discuss with you the Finances of the Parish Council. Alternatively come along to the annual parish meeting where a full financial report is given.

Tim Musson, Parish Council Finance Chair

Collingham Parish Council meets on the fourth Thursday of every month and the second Thursday in December. The meeting in August may be cancelled if there is insufficient business. The meetings are held at the Youth and Community Centre on Low Street, except June which is at the Chapel in Brough and begin at 7:15pm. The general public are welcome at all meetings, though they have no rights to participate except at the beginning of the meeting or at the Chairman's discretion and with prior notice to the clerk. Once the meeting is under way the public are welcome and encouraged to stay and listen to the Council. There may be times because of the sensitive nature of the business being discussed that the public and the press are asked to leave though this happens very rarely.