Quatt Malvern Parish Council Budget and Council Tax Precept 2026-2027

1, Information from Shropshire Council

1.1 Shropshire Council have asked the town and parish councils to notify them of their precept requirements for 2026/27 by 31st January 2026.

Last year, this Council levied a council tax precept of £6047 which equates to £58.89 per annum for an average Band D property.

For 2026-27, due to the effect of the Housing Benefit legislation and the number of taxable units, the same precept would cost the average Band D household slightly less at £56.90 per annum.

1.2 . Council Tax 2025-26

Precept charged at £58.89 pa per average Band D dwelling = £6047.00

1.3 Council Tax 2026 - 27

Precept charged at £58.89* per average band D dwelling = £6259.00
Precept charged at £56.90 per average band D dwelling = £6047.00 *

*present rate

1.3. Raising or Lowering the Council tax

Councillors will note that raising or lowering the precept by £100 results in an increase/decrease for an average Band D household of £0.94 per annum. Raising or lowering the precept by £1000 results in a £9.41 adjustment per annum for an average band D property. The present charge for a band D property is £58.89 pa.

2. Projected Expenditure for 2025/26

A detailed breakdown of expenditure for the current year is given in Appendix 1, including projections until the current year end where necessary.

3. Summary of Income and Expenditure 2025/26 (rounded up/down)

Income = £23,036 (balances b/f, Precept, and VAT refund)

LESS Expenditure £ 4527 (estimated to year end)

= Balances of £18,509 to carry forward to 2026-27

4. Expenditure 2026-27 (rounded up/down)

4.1 The projected expenditure for 2026-27 is shown at Appendix 2 and has been calculated by using the actual and projected expenditure from this year and adjusting it for inflation where appropriate.

4.2 The Council will see from Appendix 2 that the estimated expenditure for 2026-27 has been broken down into the base recurring revenue expenditure of £7129 and special items which comprises money for projects the Council has decided it wishes to pursue. These amount to £9,500 bringing total estimated expenditure to £16,629. The special items are contingency monies for the Community Led Plan (£500) possible financial support for Shropshire Council Services (£5000), grants to outside bodies (£2,000) and a sum for the proposed community garden (£2000)

4.3 The Council will note that in the estimates for 2026/7 there is no longer any provision for the pedestrian crossing in Quatt. It is very unlikely that this scheme would come to fruition within the next financial year, particularly bearing in mind the continuing financial difficulties facing Shropshire Council.

4.4 However, a sum of £5,000 pounds has been included in the budget in case the Parish Council wishes to or needs to take over any services currently provided by the Unitary Council, or it wishes to support that Council in its service provision.

4.5 Appendix 2 also shows the anticipated significant income for 2026-27, comprising the estimated balances brought forward from 2025-26 (£18,509), the precept (£6,047) and VAT refund estimated at £50. This is assuming that the Council does not wish to increase the precept. The income amounts to £24,606 in total. There may be a small amount of extra income from bank interest.

4.6 The projected income and expenditure for 2026-27 would leave balances of £7977 to carry forward to 2027-28. Audit Regulations require the Council to carry balances of at least 1/3 of the estimated expenditure. Therefore, the projected balances to bring forward to 2027-28 are adequate.

5 Decision Required

Based on the information given above, the Council are asked to:

5.1 Approve the estimated budget expenditure for 2026/27 as shown at Appendix 2.

5.2 In the light of the decisions made at 5.1 above, to determine the precept for the ensuing financial year.

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