

# Withington Parish Council

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Clerk: Mrs Denise Roscoe, Brookside, Withington, Shrewsbury, SY4 4PU  
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27 January 2026

Dear Parishioner,

I am writing to you on behalf of Withington Parish Council to explain why we have increased the 2026-2027 Precept. We do try to keep any increases to a minimum however this year a number of additional circumstances have arisen that have caused us to increase it more than we normally would, namely,

- **Changing our Web site domain to GOV.UK.**  
The UK government are encouraging all Parish Councils to move their Website and Councillors email addresses to GOV.UK domain name for which there is a cost involved. We have decided to move our website domain name but only adopt a single e-mail address for our Clerk in order to minimise the cost.
- **Legal fees regarding Withington Village Green**  
Withington PC purchased the land to create our village green in 2007 with assistance from Shropshire Council who were very supportive of our acquisition. Today the Village Green is 2/3's owned by Withington PC and 1/3 owned by Shropshire Council. Following negotiations with Shropshire Council in 2025 they have now agreed to transfer their part ownership to Withington PC at no cost which is wonderful opportunity for our Parish. We anticipate this taking place after April 2026 however we will need to pay the legal fees involved in registering the transfer of ownership which we estimate to be £900 (incl VAT)

In order to accommodate these additional costs, we decided at the Parish Council meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> January this year to increase the precept by 10%. Before doing so we consulted the members of the public who attended the meeting to obtain their opinion, and they were unanimous in their support.

To put this increase in perspective the total current Withington Parish annual precept is £6849 and from April 2026 it will be £7534 resulting in an annual increase per household of £7.69. This will however appear as an increase of 12.3% on your Shropshire Council Tax Bill 2026/2027 and that is because the Council Tax Taxbase of band D Equivalents for Withington has decreased from 109.54 to 107.29 which means the precept is shared amongst fewer households. The reason for the Council Tax Taxbase decreasing may be due to an increase in parishioners being eligible for Council Tax discounts/exemptions.

Phil Heath  
Chairman - Withington Parish Council