

BETLEY, BALTERLEY & WRINEHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Precept 2009-10 (for determination at the meeting of 22nd January 2009)

Members,

Overleaf you will find a summary intended to help you in setting the precept for the coming year. The columns indicate the Actuals for 2006-07 and 2007-08; the budget and likely outcome for 2008-09 based on expenditure to date and anticipated expenditure to end-March 2009; and a Draft Budget for 2009-10. There are a number of variances between the Budget 08-09 and the likely outcome, as follows:

	Budget	likely	variance
Clerk's salary	4,725	4,000	-- 725
Chairman's allowance	250	0	-- 250
Insurance	360	265	-- 95
Audit	150	190	+ 40
Village Hall Hire (part of 07-08 costs were paid in 08-09)	350	539	+ 189
Communications (reflects upgrade of Parish Council News; part funded by grant)	500	700	+ 200
Contingency	2,000	0	--2,000
Village Green maintenance	800	1,000	+ 200
Laudy Croft maintenance	400	100	-- 300
Support to local/outside organisations	800	225	-- 575
Contingency	2,000	200	--1,800

This is likely to lead to an underspend against budget of around £5,116 (£3,800 of this through non-use of contingency items). Income is £878 ahead of budget (investment and grant income), so overall performance is likely to be around £6,000 better than budgeted.

Looking to 2009-10 a number of budget lines have been amended to reflect experience in the past year. The most significant changes are a reduction in the budget line for the Clerk's salary (to reflect that expenses are now met under general administration), an increase in the communications line (to reflect the costs of the current methods of producing and distributing Parish Council News), and reductions in the contingency budgets.

There are a number of issues which members need to consider:

- 1. Are there further initiatives for which members would wish to make provision?**
- 2. Are the levels of contingency provision appropriate?**
- 3. The Council has a policy of earmarking an annual sum toward "implementation of recommendations" in respect of Laudy Croft. This now represents an earmarked capital reserve fund of £3,000. A contribution in 2009-10 will bring this to £4,000. Is there a point at which members will feel contributions to this earmarked reserve should cease?**

The Budget indicated, with a £3,000 provision from balances to reduce the 2008 year-end balance (£15,246) to c.£12,250 by April 2010, would require a precept of £9,060 (2008 £10,130; 2007 £9,300; 2006 £9,225; 2005 £9,630), a decrease of £830 (10.6%).

Members are invited to set a precept for 2009-2010.

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Determination of Precept for the Financial Year 2009-10 (excl VAT)

	Actual 06-07	Actual 07-08	Budget 08-09	Prob 08-09	Draft 09-10
Administration					
Clerk's salary & expenses	4,430	3,714	4,725	4,000	4,500
General Administration	326	620	450	450	450
Chairman's Allowance	250	0	250	0	250
Insurance	335	335	360	265	300
Audit	150	189	150	190	200
SPCA	300	307	320	316	320
Other subscriptions	40	30	50	50	50
Village Hall Hire	324	94	350	539	320
Parish AGM	9	24	50	70	70
Office equipment/ communications/ website	28	299	nil	nil	nil
Communications		n/a	500	700	700
Contingency	293	0	2,000	0	1,500
(Contingency – Recruitment of Clerk £293)					
TOTAL	6,485	5,612	9,205	6,580	8,660
Amenity					
Village Green Maintenance	783	812	800	1,000	1,000
Village Green Improvements **	n/a	473	500	500	500
Laudy Croft Maintenance	588	120	400	100	400
Laudy Croft: implementation of recommendations	nil	nil	1,000	1,000	1,000
Support for local activities	600	666	700	225	700
Support for outside bodies	50	nil	100	nil	100
Christmas lights and power	nil	nil	300	200	300
Churchyard maintenance	250	n/a	500	500	500
Contingency	1,718	86	2,000	200	1,500
** - met in 07/08 by grant					
TOTAL	3,989	2,157	6,300	3,725	6,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	10,474	7,770	15,505	10,305	14,660
Use of balances	(1,882)	(4,425)	3,000	(2,991)	3,000
Estimated recurrent grant	2,236	2,292	2,250	2,288	2,300
Misc income	293	nil	125	878	300
PRECEPT SET:	9,225	9,300	10,130	10,130	9,060

Gwyn Griffiths
Clerk & RFO
January 2009