

Press Release 24th Jan 2018

Dursley Town Council budget for 2018-2019

Dursley Town Council has set its budget for the coming financial year, continuing to invest in a range of projects to benefit Dursley.

The Mayor, Cllr Neil Grecian said “in setting this year’s budget we have considered two areas that needed to be addressed; a new town centre car park and an additional staff member for the green spaces team. This additional investment will be beneficial for the town but has meant that the Town Council require to raise the council tax to invest in the town’s facilities. The town council’s share of the overall council tax remains very low and by agreeing a rise of council tax of less than £1 per week for each household we aim to continue to provide high quality but value for money local services”

In 2017 the Town Council took advantage of historic low interest rates by borrowing money to buy a plot of land in Long Street that will allow us to develop a long stay public car park. The demolition and construction costs are being met by spending existing Council reserves and restructuring our budgets. The additional council tax revenue will go towards this scheme and the repayment of the loan.

The Town Council in recent years have taken on additional roles within the town which has impacted the workload of the existing grounds maintenance staff. This included The Vibe Youth Centre, Highfields Play Area and the Kingshill Cemetery extension. Our grounds staff support the Dursley In Bloom volunteers by watering the floral display in the town centre and other small projects. The additional council tax will fund a third member to the grounds staff team.

We will continue to support a greater number local community groups and events through our grant budget and support innovative ways to improve tourism by increasing footfall in the town. The Town Council have supported the fledgling Cotswold Edge & Severn Vale Tourism Network, Dursley Carnival and more established groups including Dursley Welcomes Walkers and Festive Dursley.

2018 will see the completion of Future Dursley, our Neighbourhood Plan; with the finalised draft scheduled to be put to the public vote in a referendum in the summer.

If you have any questions please contact the Town Clerk, John Kay on 01453 547758 or email clerk@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk.

The Town Council's share of the overall Council Tax bill remains very small and this year's total budget is £602,107 of which £435,616 will be met from Council tax. This is an increase of £47.58 per household per annum or 92p a week.

A summary of the Council's overall budget is shown below:

EXPENDITURE

Green spaces maintenance	108,179
Town improvements and amenities	24,000
Youth services	46,000
Community grants	35,000
Council administration (e.g. staffing, insurance and overheads)	154,728
Other services/Car park project	234,200
TOTAL	£602,107

INCOME

Use of reserves	123,641
Other income	42,850
Council tax	435,616
TOTAL	£602,107

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