

BISHOPS HULL PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Precept Request

Every year the Parish Council has to consider the amount of funding it requires for the next 12 months. Once this has been assessed, a Precept request is submitted to Somerset West and Taunton District Council for the amount to be provided from the Community Charge. This is the figure you see shown on your Council Tax Bill. The Parish Council has not requested an increase in its Precept demand for 8 years. Furthermore for the last 5, of those 8, years it has used its own reserves to part fund services thereby keeping the Parish proportion of the Council Tax static. The funds are used to run the Parish Council and to provide services to the residents of Bishops Hull. The Parish Council has two salaried employees:

1. Parish Clerk – employed for 15 hours a week to undertake all the clerical and financial tasks on behalf of the Council and is the residents first point of contact. Liaises with the District and County Councils. Ensures the Parish council is legally compliant and advises and implements any changes in legal requirements. Administrator for the allotments and both administrates and edits the Community News. Manager of the Street Cleaner.
2. Street Cleaner – employed for 12.5 hours a week. Starts the week by, on a Monday morning, litter picking the school grounds to ensure the area is safe prior to the arrival of the pupils. Follows a two week rota which covers all residential roads within the Parish. In the Winter months clears the leaves from the pavements and works with the District Council clearing leaves over a wider area. Bishops Hull is the only Parish in Taunton Deane to employ a street cleaner.

The Parish Council also provides bins, benches and notice boards. It has invested in the most dog bins of any Parish in Taunton Deane and is responsible for meeting the emptying charges which are currently over £1000 per year. In addition the Parish Council supports local groups within the Parish. During the last year it has assisted with the project to build a new village hall by financing the professional construction fees. This financial commitment came from Parish Council reserves. Importantly without this support, the £223,000 of Section 106 funds from Persimmon, the developer of the Kinglake Estate, would not have been utilised. The Parish Council reserves are now at the minimum legal level required . Consequently they need to be slowly rebuilt. The decision has therefore been taken to increase the total Parish Council Precept this year by £3000. This equates to a Council Tax increase for a Band D property of £2.43 per household spread over the whole year i.e. 20p per month. Hopefully you feel that, taking into consideration the numerous services delivered by the Parish Council, this small increase is justifiable. What it will ensure is that the same level of service and commitment can continue to be provided to the residents of Bishops Hull.

Meeting dates for 2020

all held on a Thursday evening at the Church Hall, Bishops Hull, 7pm start:

January 23rd	May 21st	September 10th
February – no meeting	June 19th	October 8th
March 12th	July 16th	November 5th
April 23rd	August – no meeting	December 3rd

Everyone is welcome to attend, and before the meeting starts there is a "Have your Say" session where residents can raise any items of local concern.

Bishops Hull Parish Councillor Vacancy

Bishops Hull Parish Council has two vacancies for Parish Councillors. The position of Parish Councillor is voluntary with no financial reward but it does bring involvement in what happens locally and an opportunity to have an input on matters affecting Bishops Hull. The Parish Council meets on a Thursday evening and has 10 meetings a year and between meetings there will be correspondence and other papers to read and consider. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor and you are over 18, registered to vote, male or female and live within 3 miles of the Parish please contact Helen McGladdery, the Clerk to the Council.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funds summary

Issued in 2019:

Bishops Hull Village Hall & Playing Fields Trust – **Total £21,101.25**

£17,000.00 – Contributions towards refurbishment of old Pavilion

£850.00 – Bench repairs on the Playing Fields

£3251.25 – Drainage works on playing fields – to be paid on completion of works

Frank Bond Centre – £2000.00 – contribution towards new canopy at the Centre.

2 Community Defibrillators – one at the Frank Bond Centre (already installed) and one on the new HUB building – Using **£2,650.00** of CIL funds

Ringfenced:

Bishops Hull HUB – £50,000.00 – contribution for the new hall

Bishops Hull HUB – £6,000.00 – contribution to new car park

Contribution to Netherclay Footbridge repairs – £1000.00

Parish Councillor contact details

Chairman

Mr Mike Leach
8 Gwyther Mead
Bishops Hull TA1 5FD
Tel: 323544
mikeleach3@gmail.com

Vice Chairman

Mr John Hunt
10 Badgers Close
Bishops Hull, TA1 5HL
Tel: 07880 794554
john@johnhunt.me.uk

Clerk to the Council

Mrs Helen McGladdery
46 Ashley Road
Taunton, TA1 5BP
Tel: 07518 144614
bishopshullparishclerk@gmail.com

Members

Mr Stuart Turner
9 Gwyther Mead,
Bishops Hull, TA1 5FD
Tel: 282371
ibisplayer@btinternet.com

Mr Malcolm Turner
74 Gillards,
Bishops Hull, TA1 5HJ
Tel: 284102
mgturner48@hotmail.co.uk

Mrs Bev Fernandes
24 Wellington New Road
Taunton, TA1 5NF
Tel: 07880 555984
bevfernandes3@gmail.com

Mr Peter Prior-Sanky
39 Gillards,
Bishops Hull, TA1 5HH
Tel: 762783
petepriorsanky@btinternet.com

Mrs Jane Henry
12 Gwyther Mead,
Bishops Hull TA1 5FD
Tel: 07815 693412
janehenryuk@btinternet.com

Mr Jeremy Taylor
11 Waterfield Close
Bishops Hull, TA1 5HB
Tel: 01823 336924
jctaylor1966@outlook.com

Mr Tony Taylor
8 Great Mead
Bishops Hull, TA1 5HE
Tel: 01823 332523
tonytlr1@gmail.com

VACANCY

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