

CHILD OKEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Finance for 2008-09.

The Council is required to determine in January the amount of money it requires for the next financial year, which will be levied as a charge (precept) on the council tax of this parish. The Council will consider the proposal not to increase the precept for next year but to retain it at £18,000. This figure takes into account the significant increase in the precept since 2006-07, which was essentially levied to cover the transition period to facilitate the devolution of services from the District Council. With the devolution programme now entering its second year, it has been proposed that this Council should support the following services, through direct grants, all of which would benefit the people of Child Okeford, namely the group purchase of a SID (Speed Indicating Device), Sturminster Newton Leisure Centre and the CAB (Citizen's Advice Bureau). In future years such support should be extended to include the countryside services, which are secure for 2008-09. Furthermore, this figure takes into account an allocation to capital projects including replacement gang mowers, qualifying grants to village organisations to enable them to obtain outside finance, tree maintenance and planting schemes in the Rec., as well as to increase our reserve fund - for which there is a future need for a number of items including the purchase of our own SID (for continuous deployment in the village) as well as the replacement of outdated play equipment – which is expensive!

Before setting the precept Council would welcome your views, as council tax payers, and time will be allocated for this at our next meeting which will be held at the Community Centre on Monday the 7th January 2008 at 7-30pm. **Please come and have your say.**

The following are details of the proposal under consideration.

LOCAL DELIVERY

NDDC Cost of Services 2007-2008

£000's

Expenditure	Income	Other Income		Net
25,902	16,283			9,619
		Capital Charges	1,512	
		Investment	919	
		Government	4229	
		Reserves	467	
		Other	59	2,441

This £2441M is met by Domestic Rate Payers as part of Council Tax.

Of the Total Council Tax NDDC proportion represents **6.67%**
The Child Okeford Precept of £12,000 represents **1.6%**
The C O Precept + Local Delivery of £6,083 represent **2.45%**

Services at Risk

Service	End of Support	Cost	Parish Action
Blandford Leisure	March 2010	81,150	None now
Blandford Pool	TBA	145,750	None now

Gillingham Leisure	March 2008	227,550	None
Shaftsbury Leisure	March 2009	88,430	None
Sturminster Leisure	March 2008	109,280	Should support
Public Toilets	March 2008	88,370	None needed
Markets		0	None needed
Amenity Areas	March 2009	37,130	For future
CAB Funding	Phased to March 2009	73,920	Should support
Community Development	March 2011	83,150	None now
Countryside Service	March 2009	80,020	For future
Economic Development	TBA	70,550	None
Environmental Initiatives	March 2008	35,350	?
Outreach/Arts	March 2011	35,860	None
Street Cleaning	March 2008	495,410	None
Tourism	March 2007	0	None
Total		1,578,920	

Current Precept is £12,000 + £6083 Local Delivery = £18,083

Which equates approximately to:-

Band A	£22.74 p.a. an increase on £12000 of £7.65
Band B	£26.74 £8.93
Band C	£30.29 £10.20
Band D	£34.13 £11.48
Band E	£41.67 £14.03.
Band F	£49.24 £16.58
Band G	£56.82 £19.13
Band H	£68.19 £22.96

For 2008-2009:

The full cost of providing a SID for the village including the device, programmer and download is approx £3,500.

Sturminster Newton Leisure Centre.

Child Okeford has about 40 members and other casual visitors. The provision of sports facilities is important for the health of the villagers particularly the young. With the support from Dorset County Council for school use during part of the day, the setting up of the Trust to run the Centre, increased subscriptions, and a grant from Sturminster Town Council (by way of increased precept) the shortfall in operating cost is £15,000 per year.

CAB.

This is an important service to our villagers, particularly the elderly and less well off, it should not be allowed to close.