



EARL SHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

21, Wood Street, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire, LE9 7NE.

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Dear Resident/Council Tax Payer,

Re: Earl Shilton Town Council Precept (Budget) Request – for Financial Year 2018/19

Your Town Council have, for the forthcoming financial year 2018/19 requested a precept sum of **£246,890** which will form a very small element of your overall annual individual council tax bill. May I remind you that the vast majority of domestic council tax goes to Leicestershire County Council, to the Police/Fire & Rescue Services Authority, a very much smaller amount to your Borough Council and then a smaller amount still to your Town Council. The comparative figures for the previous, current and next financial years are as follows:

Planned	FY 2016/17	FY 2017/18	FY 2018/19
	£	£	£
Income			
Precept	200,656	214,687	246890
Other Income	12,550	12,050	16144
Total Planned Income	<u>213,206</u>	<u>226,737</u>	<u>263034</u>
Expenditure			
Admin, Finance incl. Staff costs	138,835	157,851	175867
Public & Civic Events	29,800	25,400	26200
Parks & Cemetery Upkeep	43,800	26,100	42960
Grants & Awards	37,200	20,700	26800
Total Planned Expenditure	<u>249,635</u>	<u>230,051</u>	<u>271827</u>
Planned use of <i>General Reserves</i> (to balance the Precept)	36,429	3,314	8,793

Notes: For a **Band D (usually a 4 bed detached home)** council tax property the **annual rise** in the Town Council element paid is **£9.24** only. Bands A, B & C properties the increase paid will be pay less. Band E (larger) properties will pay a little more than the £9.24. The **Band D** increase of £9.24 on yearly bills does represent a percentage rise of 13.21% however we hope you will appreciate in absolute pounds and pence this is a small increase spread over 12 months. Additionally, because of the increase in the number of (new build) dwellings paying Council Tax in the Town, the material absolute increase in the Precept is only £28,801 and not £32,203 simply because there are more Council tax payers to share the burden of costs for services all residents enjoy.

2. The Town Council's aims, objectives and reasoning for the coming year are to:

- a. Maintain the expected and popular **Town & Civic events** including:
- A themed *Picnic in the Park* – QE II The Hall Field Park– 10 Jun 18.
 - *Shilton by the Sea* (3 days of family fun) – Wood St Park 7-9 Aug 18.
 - *The Town Show* – 01 Sep 18.
 - *Remembrance Weekend* – 11 Nov 18.
 - *Christmas 'Lights' event* – 30 Nov 18.

You will note that expenditure in this cost centre has been carefully controlled without a loss of amenity and you may be assured that, where reasonable, charges are made to public and vendors alike to keep costs down.

The exceptional extra event this year will be a *Beacon Lighting* to mark the centenary of the end of the Great War. In this we are joining in with towns and villages across the whole of the United Kingdom.

- b. Continue to support:
- The *Community House* on Peggs Close and hopefully this will include the restoration of a *Citizens Advice* appointment service held here on a regular and frequent basis.
 - The part funding of 'year 2' of providing a full time *Early Intervention Worker* to help prevent our young people from falling into substance misuse or rescuing them from it.
 - A Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator at no increase in cost.
 - Limited grants for Earl Shilton Volunteer Community groups.
 - A joint venture with the Borough to provide wi-fi for the Town Centre.
- c. Admin and Staff costs have risen because of increased hours to cope with the standards and demand to make sure the Town's growing parks, open spaces and cemetery are maintained to a quality expected by residents whilst planning to make incremental improvements.
- d. Parks, Open Spaces & Cemetery. This cost centre has seen the largest increase in investment. It is the beginning of a medium and long term trend to prudently make provision for these much valued assets that all Towns people can share and enjoy. Reserves and Developer Section 106 monies will be used wherever possible, however, steady provision will *future proof* the replacement of plant and equipment needed to maintain these assets as well as provide the best possible play equipment.

Yours sincerely,



ME Jackson
Town Clerk
for Council

18 January 2018