

Cotesbach Parish Council

Proposal to increase the Parish Council precept – background information

The Parish Council charges each house in Cotesbach, about £8 per year, payable through your council tax, that contributes to the Parish Council budget.

Parish councils similar to Cotesbach, like Shawell, Wistow, Tur Langton charge at least £20 a year.

Cotesbach Parish Council's precept has hardly changed for over 10 years. We would like to increase it to around £28 per year.

Why does the Parish Council want to make this increase?

It is to mainly pay a small wage to a council Clerk, who we need to employ.

Currently we do not have a Clerk – an important role that ensures the council is organised, doing what it has committed to, and manages the finances responsibly and independently.

Unpaid councillors could do some of this work, but not having an independent person to manage the finances responsibly is required. It would also help to have someone experience who knows how to liaise with District and County Council representatives.

The increased precept and the hiring of a Clerk will help achieve a number of things within the Council's priorities over the coming years, which include:

- Ensuring we work well with our "industrial neighbours"
- Improving the safety of the A426
- Running the Parish Council compliantly
- Making our village an even better, tidier and attractive place to live

With approval of the precept, recruitment can start. If we aren't able to find anyone, we will revisit the need to continue with the precept at the suggested level.

The increased budget during 2019/20 will be used for other village amenities such as flower boxes, advice or budget for safety and speed improvements on the A426 and other items to make Cotesbach a better place.

Come to the Parish Council meeting on 14th Jan to find out more and share your views.

This meeting will replace the previously scheduled meeting on 4th Feb.