



## ***Parish Council Budgets for 2023/24***

Braunton Parish Councillors have unanimously approved a budget for the year April 2023 – March 2024 and an associated precept of £190,875 (the amount of money the Council will need to fulfil that budget).

Every year, the Parish Council draws up its budget and calculates how much money it needs for the next Financial Year. This amount is then submitted to North Devon Council (NDC). NDC adds together its own demands with those of the County Council, the Police, Fire and Rescue Service and the Parish Council to establish an overall Council Tax rate to be paid by Braunton residents from 1st April of that year. For residents in a Band D property, Braunton Parish Council is asking for £61.73 per annum. Compared to 2022/23, this equates to an increase of 16 pence per week for the tax year 2023/24.

The main reason for this increase, in addition to inflation, is due to the Parish Council saving the only public conveniences in central Braunton. Due to the current financial pressures on local authorities NDC are reducing its non-statutory frontline services. Public conveniences are being transferred to the relevant parish/town councils, and where agreement cannot be reached

prior to April 2023, those facilities are at risk of closure.

As well as its statutory responsibilities as the local tier of Local Authority for the Parish, the Parish Council is also responsible for allotments, Braunton Parish Hall, car parks, Community Work Hub, Memorial Gardens, play parks, recreational ground, village green, Velator Quay, The Beacon, Tarka Trail (part), bus shelters, public seating, litter bins and dog waste bins, Christmas tree and lights and grass cutting. The precept is therefore an essential part of the Parish Council's funding, without which it could not maintain a service that effectively and efficiently responds to the needs of our community.

Councillor Liz Spear, Chairman of Braunton Parish Council said: "To continue to provide vital services and facilities for our community the Parish Council has had to agree a very modest increase to the budget. Braunton Parish Council is committed to improving our service to the Parish through good financial management and planning, which is particularly important at a time when people's personal and family budgets are being squeezed like never before."

For further information please email [info@brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## **Braunton Parish Council to take on Public Conveniences**

Braunton Parish Council met on Monday 19th December, and members unanimously voted to take on North Devon Council's (NDC) public conveniences in the Caen Street Car Park. Due to financial pressures on local authorities, NDC approved a recommendation which will see public conveniences handed over to town/parish councils. Should communities choose not to take them on then the facility would be decommissioned.



*Photo credit: Braunton Community Neighbourhood Plan Photographer*

Braunton Parish Council members agreed that public conveniences are seen as a vital facility in our community and the closure of them would not be an option. The Parish Council have therefore agreed to take on this asset from 1 April 2023, with a phased transfer for the cleaning up until March 2024.

The Chair of Braunton Parish Council, Councillor Liz Spear says, "For people who live in the village and people visiting the village they are an important facility. The closure of this vital service would have a detrimental impact on the community and local traders. Braunton Parish Council are committed to continue to provide and improve services across the parish".

### Braunton Parish Council



*Clerk's Office  
Chaloners Road  
Braunton  
Devon, EX33 2ES*

*Phone: 01271 812131  
Email: [info@brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.brauntonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Facebook.com/BrauntonParishCouncil  
Twitter: @brauntonparish  
Hours: 09:00 - 12:00 Monday - Friday*

Tracey Lovell, Clerk to the Council  
Angela Corner, Senior Council Officer

### Meetings Calendar 2023

Full Council meetings are currently being held in the Parish Hall and additional meetings, to primarily consider planning applications, are currently being held virtually. Please note the change of day of the Full Council meetings.

**7pm Tuesday 14 February 2023**

**7pm Monday 27 February 2023**

