



Witney Town Council

All about your Council Tax

The primary source of income for most Parish Councils comes from the Precept, part of the Council Tax. We explain the contribution you make to the Town Council through your Council Tax and how it is spent.

WHAT IS A PRECEPT?

The Town Council receives a small proportion of the local Council Tax. It does not receive any direct funding from central government.

The funding collected pays for the running of the Council and the services it provides.

HOW IS IT CALCULATED?

The Town Council makes an estimate of income and expenditure for the next financial year, including some for future planned projects and/or unexpected events. It is then calculated as an amount per Council Tax Band D Property and added to the Council Tax Bill of all the dwellings within the Parish area.

HOW IS IT RAISED?

West Oxfordshire District Council collects your Council Tax on behalf of the District Council, County Council, Police, Fire and the Precepts for any Parish/Town Councils in their district. It is important to note that Witney Town Council's Precept is just a small percentage of your overall Council Tax Bill.

HOW MUCH IS IT & WHY HAS IT GONE UP?

From 1st April 2022, the average taxpayer in Witney will be asked to pay a precept rise of around 65 pence a month for Witney Town Council's share of the Council Tax. The decision to increase the precept payment was agreed at an extraordinary meeting of the Full Council on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

The precept increase of 4.9% will enable the Town Council to maintain its council's general fund and fulfil its statutory obligations. This is a rise of £7.97 per Band 'D' property for the year, bringing it to a total of £166.83.

The forecast for running the Town Council's services for 2022-23 remains uncertain, due to the ongoing effects of

the pandemic, so this years' budget represents a prudent estimate of income and expenditure. These funds will help provide a sound basis for the Council's strategic plan, general improvements and enhancements to existing assets, in particular:

- Continued support for the community bus
- Increased financial support for Youth Services in Witney
- Marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee
- Reviewing how it delivers the grounds maintenance of its open spaces, sports pitches, and floral displays
- Further measures to ensure the Council stays on target to reach carbon neutrality by 2028.

HOW IS IT SPENT?

Your Precept is spent on the provision and maintenance of the facilities and services shown below:



The Leys (Sports Pitches & Splashpark) **£17.78**
West Witney Sports Ground **£3.75**
Burwell QEII Recreation Ground **£3.13**
King George V Recreation Ground **£2.29**
Witney Lake & Country Park **£7.54**



Tower Hill Cemetery **£12.08**
Windrush Cemetery **£14.37**
Closed Churchyards **£0.43**



Bank Interest/Charges **-£0.05p**
Corporate Management **£14.10**
Democratic Representation & Management **£12.26**
Capital and Earmarked Reserves **-£4.99**



Burwell Hall **£7.21**
Corn Exchange **£15.57**
Income from Leased
Community halls **-£1.27**



Community Activities/Newsletter **£18.46**
Community Infrastructure **£35.99**
(inc grass cutting & open spaces)
Civic Activities **£4.36**
(inc Remembrance Sunday & events)
Christmas Lights **£3.20**

Total:
£166.83
per Band D household per year