

# Biddulph Town Council

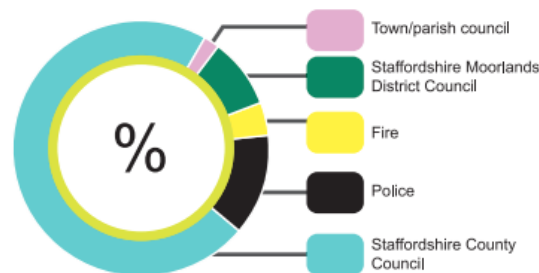


## Precept Statement 2025-26

At the Town Council meeting on Tuesday 11 February 2025, Town Councillors approved a precept requirement of £481,920.00 for the 2025-26 financial year.

Town Councils do not receive any direct funding from central Government and rely on their precept, plus any other income from services or facilities they provide. Our precept forms part of the Council Tax that is collected by Staffordshire Moorlands District Council on behalf of the Town Council, the District Council, Staffordshire County Council, Staffordshire Police, Fire and Rescue.

The pie chart below shows how your council tax is distributed across the organisations; Biddulph Town Council typically receives 3% of the total:



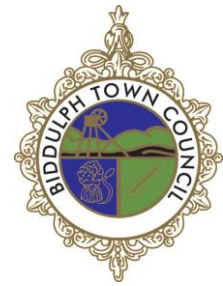
Each year, the Band D charge is considered. Based on this, the 2025-26 precept requirement represents an increase of £9.15 per year, from £66.14 in 2024-25 to £75.29 in 2025-26. For those who pay Council Tax, this means you'll pay £6.27 each month for Town Council services.

Since the Covid pandemic and the start of the cost-of-living crisis, the Town Council has attempted to keep any increases low. We've used some savings to fund projects. However, we risk not being able to support people in our community, if we cannot find ways to pay these increased bills. For example, the Town Hall utility costs have increased from £14,500 in 2019-20 to £55,254 in 2023-24.



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Councillor Wayne Rogers, Chair of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee, said: 'The Town Council has worked hard to review spending and identify savings. The 2025-26 budget aligns to the Council's plan, delivering projects and services for Biddulph residents, whilst maintaining financial stability. In the coming year, we'll continue to provide services, develop our facilities and also hold events that celebrate VE/VJ day and our town's rich music and creative culture.'

## What we'll spend in 2025-26

### Maintenance of Town Assets:

**£42,700** the burial grounds, allotment sites, the 'Butterfly Garden' and green spaces. This also includes our Lengthsman costs.

### Community Grant Funding: £60,000

supporting local groups, providing significant funding to Biddulph in Bloom and Citizens Advice; providing reinvestment back into our community.

### Governance and Administration:

**£304,000** includes running of council meetings, providing a local voice on planning, transport, environmental matters, town regeneration, etc. Professional fees, office equipment, IT equipment, employee costs to deliver the functions, projects and services listed.

**Management of Facilities: £315,000** the Town Hall, bus hub/public toilets, country park visitor centre. This included utilities, waste management, insurance, business rates, caretaking (employees), contractors and building maintenance.

### Events and Christmas Celebrations: £36,000

including the classic vehicle show, remembrance parade, volunteer recognition awards, health and well-being events, and supporting the Biddulph Festival and Christmas activities, including the tree, lights switch-on and Christmas events.

### Town Hall Reception Services:

**£29,000** supporting residents and visitors with council tax enquiries, providing information about local services, promoting tourism, etc.

### Community Support:

**£10,500** such as facilitating the 'Biddulph Works Together' initiative, dementia friendly projects, etc.

### Heritage Projects: £10,000

such as maintenance and/or repair of the town war memorial, restoration of historical monuments, etc.



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