

Biddulph Town Council

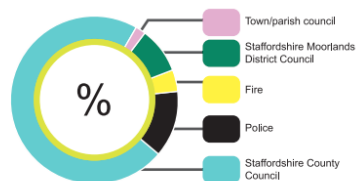


Precept Statement 2026-27

At the Town Council meeting on Tuesday 10 February 2026, Town Councillors approved a precept requirement of £548,785.00 for the 2026-27 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 (town/parish council) typically receives 3% of the total:



Each year, the Band D charge is considered. Based on this, the 2026-27 precept requirement represents an increase of £10.82 per year, from £75.29 in 2025-26 to £86.11 in 2026-27. For those who pay Council Tax, this means you'll pay £7.18 each month for Town Council services.

This year, we have continued to look for efficiencies. The majority of the increase will fund the new Garden of Remembrance at Woodhouse Burial Ground. There is very little space left for the interment of cremated remains across the sites. The Town Council has planning permission for the development, and has spent some time satisfying the requirements of the planning process. We are looking to provide a dignified, inclusive space for remembrance, which is accessible for all and ensures the viability of the site for future generations. This is a core community function that aligns with the council's responsibility to support residents throughout their lives.

The precept increase is specifically linked to a defined capital project. Once the Garden of Remembrance is established, ongoing maintenance costs will be modest and can be absorbed within existing budgets.

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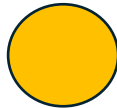


Councillor Wayne Rogers, Chair of the Finance Strategy and Management Committee, said: 'The Town Council has worked hard to review spending and identify savings. The development of the Garden of Remembrance means the individual impact on households is small, but the collective benefit is significant and lasting. Without immediate investment, the council will be unable to offer any local remembrance space, leaving families with no choice but to look outside the parish. This community facility will serve the town for decades.'

What we'll spend in 2026-27

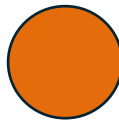
Community Grant Funding: £60,000

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



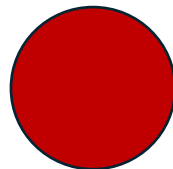
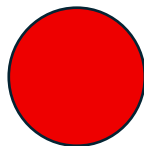
Maintenance of Town Assets:

£134,000 the burial grounds, allotment sites, the 'Butterfly Garden' and green spaces. This also includes our Lengthsman costs.



Governance and Administration:

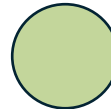
£309,000 includes running of council meetings, providing a local voice on planning, transport, environmental matters, town regeneration, etc. Professional fees, office equipment, IT equipment, employee costs to deliver the functions, projects and services listed.



Management of Facilities: £264,000 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: £37,500

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



Town Hall Reception Services:

£21,000 supporting residents and visitors with council tax enquiries, providing information about local services, promoting tourism, etc.



Community Support:

£13,200 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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