

## Supporting Financial Statement for the Annual Town Meeting 11 April 2022

The Financial Information report shows the budget summary for Kesgrave Town Council for the new financial year 2022.23 compared with the 2021.22 budget.

It should be noted that the budgeting process begins in the preceding November with the final budget approved the following January, ready for the start of the new financial year (1 April to 31 March).

### **Main changes to the 2022.23 budget include: -**

- Administration salaries have increased to include provision for a 5-day office opening and to cover new projects and initiatives.
- The Library request for additional funding of £4000 is to support an increase in opening hours and new services.
- Extra maintenance costs planned at the Cemetery and Rupert Fison Square.
- MJH room hire income is expected to return to pre-Covid levels. Hire charges, reduced in 2021/22, are back to full rates from 1 April 2022.
- Estate Operatives are undertaking more duties in house, saving the costs of external contracts. Equipment has been purchased to carry out these duties.
- The budget for Green Environmental projects has been increased to £35,000 to fund further projects, including conservation work at Pilsbrough Walk, wildflower planting on verge areas and Pergola Piece, new recycling site.
- Professional fees have been increased to support future land adoptions.
- More events for Kesgrave Residents are planned for 2022/23, including the Platinum Jubilee, Tea Parties, new attractions for the Fun Day etc.

### **Precept requirement for 2022.23**

The Council tax charge for a Band D property was not increased last year to help residents through Covid and any additional costs were met by reserves.

The Council has worked hard trying to keep any increase to the tax charge for a Band D property to a minimum for 2022/23, whilst ensuring projects/initiatives, agreed in the Business Plan, are fulfilled. The Parish portion for 2022/23 has been increased to £67.93 per annum, an increase of £4.86 per annum or 7.7% increase on the 2021.22 council tax bill.

The precept request for 2022/23 is £326,700.

The shortfall (£) between the budget required for 2022/23 and the Precept requirement will be met by reserves (£110,206).

A Dougall

Responsible Financial Officer

11 April 2022