

FGPC 30 November 2020

Appendix 5 part 1 - Budget summary 2021-2022

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Ferndown Town Council must set its precept no later than 1st March for the financial year that commences on 1st April 2021. In practise Dorset Council (as the billing authority) require this information by 31st January.

The proposed budget for 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 has been produced by the RFO on the following assumptions.

1. There will be no carry forward or movement to GRs (that should contribute towards the cost of replacement and maintenance of assets) as any savings in expenditure will offset COVID related income shortfalls.
2. Staff numbers to increase to allow for future staffing needs and changes:
 - (i) increase office staff as previously agreed by the Personnel Committee - 1 x Assistant Lengthsman (full time but shared with KGV), 1 x Community Officer (p/t 18 hrs), & 1 x Youth Worker (p/t 9 hrs);
 - (ii) as well as the staff identified above, further staff to manage the refurbished BC may be required – 1 x Building Supervisor, 2 x Duty Officers, cleaners, bar/café staff and technical staff – these figures have not been included in the draft budget.
 - (iii) as well as the staff identified above in point (i) and as an alternative to point (ii) SLA with externa facilities contract management company who would be responsible for cleaning, day to day site management of site including repairs/maintenance/compliance testing. – these figures have not been included in the draft budget.
3. Potential redundancy pay outs for BC 'laid off' staff – not included in draft budget.
4. Staff wages estimated to increase by 3% in line with projected national salary award.
5. Increment increases for staff (to be considered by the Personnel Committee).
6. RPI increase of 1.5 % (annual average) across all relevant expenditure items.
7. 2% reduction across the Band D tax base.
8. In relation to income it would be usual to set a prudent assessment across income streams; however COVID-19 has impacted the current financial year and for the next financial year has been set at a 50% reduction for room and pitch hire (e.g. Youth Centre, Ford Lane) for the first 6 months.

9. In relation to the Barrington Centre income has been set at 0% for April to June then incrementally to 100% by March 2022 on the basis that the Centre re-opens post refurbishment and COVID-19.
10. Council's level of GRs should remain at a prudent level to allow for unforeseen expenditures. This is estimated to be £1,119,241 as of 31 March 2021 (based on projected expenditure as planned, projected income from precept only, EMRs of £200,000 and bank balances as of 31 September). Council is recommended to have between 50-75% of its total expenditure for GRs, or £350,000 - £525,000.
11. Increase insurance premium for additional cover for the Barrington Centre.
12. Additional cost of undertaking a maintenance review and 10-year programme for all Council owned and managed buildings.
13. Increase in KGV grant/subsidy based on increased staff requirements when facility up and running at 100% capacity plus additional work to Regency Room and 'kiosk' area.
14. EMRs have been based on this year's levels and will need amending if FGPC agree new EMRs as proposal by the Town Clerk.
15. Proposed Council projects for 2021-2022:
 - print and distribution of the community newsletter "Ferndown Matters" on a quarterly basis – part of community engagement priority within Council's Action Plan 2019-21
 - re-develop Dugdell play area (two age areas) – Council's Action Plan 2019-2021
 - enable the use of the BC for all members of the community - Council's Action Plan 2019-2021
 - refurbish Ford Lane changing facilities and introduce new facility in disused 'play' area - Council's Action Plan 2019-2021
 - realistic action in line with Government and Dorset Council 'green' sustainable initiatives across FTCs services and facilities that enable council to become more 'climate friendly' – Council's Action Plan 2019-2021
 - refurbishment of BC not included in current DC refurbishment programme
 - staff structure review in response to increased areas of responsibility– Council's Action Plan 2019-2021.