

## ELLISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2024/25

### Summary narrative:

1. Precept (currently £5521) to be increased for 2024/25 by 10% to £6073. See below for the rationale for this
2. Fixed Costs (£14,181). We are heavily reliant on Grants and Donations to subsidise the Fixed costs at around 49% for 2024/25. With this in mind and the fact that the Precept has not increased for 10 years, the Parish Council would recommend we increase it for the next few years to ensure we have enough funding to minimise the risk to the precept as well as allocating for Projects (see below)
3. Grants and Donations assume we will get an extra £4K from Amber Solar. If not then then we will need to take £4K from reserves to top up fixed costs. Going forward Richard and I agreed we should look to increase this number from other sources where possible so that we have sufficient funds for Projects as well as keeping the precept to a more appropriate level.
4. Projects. £3700 has been ringfenced for Ear Marked Reserves (EMR) covering Lower Common playground replacement in 10 years, Village signs (in 2 years) and History of Ellisfield to be implemented in 2024/2025. The Speed Device on Axford road will need to be replaced in 3-4 years time. However, we will start allocation of funding from 2025/2026 onwards for this.
5. Reserves in 2023/24 have taken a hit of £2100 due to removal of dangerous/unstable of Ash Trees at Hill Farm Pond. Going forward the remainder of the Ash trees are still affected by disease but have foliage so plan to spread the cost across the next 2 years. HCC have confirmed they are happy with the progress to date. 2024/25 Budget figure has been reduced to reflect this.
6. Lengthsman costs were reassessed at the beginning of the year to a more realistic figure resulting in an increase to £2450. A large part of the revised cost is due to annual maintenance of the Flood Defences in Green Lane, Furzen Lane and Bell Lane plus general maintenance. Following a discussion with our lengthsman we've reduced the effort on general maintenance but kept the focus on the Main Flood Defences resulting in a reduction of £500 to £1950 for the coming year
7. Parish Council has agreed to factor in an annual donation to cover the cost of Broadband for the Memorial Hall
8. Section 137 Payment is a audit requirement to cover unexpected costs that may arise during the year

# EXPENSE BUDGET 2024-2025

Ellisfield Parish Council

Figures as at 4th November 2023

	Actual	Budget	Funding Sources			
Expense	2024-2025	2024-2025	Precept	Reserves	Donations/Grants given to Parish Council	Description/Business Justification
<b>FIXED/RUNNING COSTS</b>						
Net Salaries and Allowances		5,995	5,609	166	220	
Pension/Maternity cover		0				
Clerks Expenses		60	60			
Chairmans Allowance		50	50			
Hall Hire		300	253		47	
Audit Comission (Audit Fees)		200			200	
Insurance		480			480	
Subscriptions		250			250	
Playground Inspection		350			350	
Grants and Donations		576			576	Memorial broadband and Ellisfield Allotments
EVG		500			500	
Repairs and Maintenance		1,400			1,400	Maintenance of Hill Farm Pond and other assets including playgrounds
Playground Equipment		0				Remove item. This is included in Repairs and Maintenance
Communications		120	101		19	Clerks mobile phone
Garage Rental		650			650	
Section 137 Payment		600			600	Provision for unexpectd expenditure - audit req.
Training		250			250	
IT & Admin Costs		450		450		Email and website hosting
Publications						
Miscellaneous						
Lengthsman		1,950		445	1,505	Focus on the main flood defences for 2024/25. Other drainage activities done in 2023/24 (3 year cycle)
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,181</b>	<b>6,073</b>	<b>1,061</b>	<b>7,047</b>	
<b>PROJECT COSTS</b>						
SID						3 year invesment to a total of £3000. SID only has a 5 year lifespan. Check with Paul Gaskell. Assume investment starts from 2025/26
Lower Common Playground		450		450		10 Year investment. Replacement at a cost of £4500. Hold as EMR
Village Signs		2,250		2,250		2 Year investment. Enhance the image of the Village. Similar to Cliddesden. Hold as EMR
History of Ellisfield		1,000		1,000		Implement in 2024/25. Provide identity for the village
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,700</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17,881</b>	<b>6,073</b>	<b>4,761</b>	<b>7,047</b>	