

# Mancetter Parish Council

Mancetter Matters March / April 2017

## Parish Council Precept

The Precept is the way that the Parish Council raises money to cover their expenses for the year and is charged through the Council Tax System.

Parish Councils have faced financial challenges since the change in the Council Tax System which was introduced in 2013/14.

Mancetter Parish Council has always strived to keep the Parish precept as low as possible, whilst still providing a good service.

We receive many favourable comments about our cemetery and continue to maintain this to a very high standard.

We are in the final stages of our Neighbourhood Plan and although we have received grants to cover consultant's fees, printing, room hire etc. Both the Clerk and Assistant have put in a lot of hours to get the plan to this stage.

The amount claimed from precept has only increased by £180 per year between 2013 and 2017. Each year we are warned that the Council Tax Support Grant will be reduced and possibly cease altogether.

In order to continue at our current level; along with succession planning to train a new clerk, who should be qualified before the existing clerk retires; we have increased our precept for 2017/18.

At the Parish Council meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> January, after much discussion, it was unanimously agreed to increase the total amount, from precept and grant to £26,680. This being an overall increase of £2,000.

The annual increase on Council Tax bands is as follows:

<b>Council Tax Band</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Total Parish Levy</b>	<b>Council Tax Band</b>	<b>Increase</b>	<b>Total Parish Levy</b>
Band A	£2.05	£25.08	Band E	£3.76	£45.98
Band B	£2.40	£29.26	Band F	£4.45	£54.34
Band C	£2.74	£33.44	Band G	£5.13	£62.70
Band D	£3.08	£37.62	Band H	£6.16	£75.24

The Percentage increase you should see on your Council Tax Bill will be approximately 8.9%.

## Mancetter Cemetery

We have reviewed our cemetery fees for 2017/18 and there will be no increase for Parishioners. There will however, be an increase for non-Parishioners should they wish to be interred in Mancetter Cemetery.

In order to keep the cemetery tidy, any Christmas wreaths and ornamentation still on graves and cremation areas at Easter will be removed.