

WAVENDON PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT

MESSAGE TO RESIDENTS
FROM

CLLR DAVID HOPKINS

CHAIR OF WAVENDON
PARISH COUNCIL

When your Council Tax Bill arrives in March, you will see that the parish element has increased. For an average Band D property, the annual parish charge will rise to £86.41 - an increase of 38p per week compared with the previous year.

An increase is never welcome, particularly during an ongoing cost-of-living crisis. With this very much in mind, the Parish Council wanted to explain why this decision has been taken and how your money will be used:

Unlike higher tiers of government, the Parish Council does not receive any direct funding from central government. The majority of our income comes from the parish precept, collected as part of the Council Tax. Around one quarter of our income is generated from other sources such as service fees and community hall charges. When opportunities arise, we also seek to draw down s.106 planning contributions and apply for external grant funding.

Like many households and organisations, the Parish Council is facing significant financial pressures. Inflation is currently around 3.4%. Local council staff wages rose by 3.2% last year with a further national pay award still pending, and additional costs are being incurred through higher NI contributions. Grounds maintenance charges have increased by 26%, while utility costs continue to rise. These represent the three largest items of routine expenditure within the Council's budget.

Taking all of these factors into account, the Council faced a difficult choice: either raise the precept or reduce local services at a time when our community may need them most. Closing community centres was considered unimaginable as it would leave local sports teams and the social clubs that support them without a home.

During the coming year, the Parish Council will be bringing forward a number of resident led initiatives, including:

- Provision of Youth Club facilities, requested particularly by residents in Eagle Farm South and Glebe Farm
- Management of new allotments site (60+ new allotment plots)
- Establishing a Community Engagement Programme to benefit residents across the parish.
- Opening a staffed Parish Office, accessible Monday to Friday, enabling residents to raise important matters in person

Delivering these initiatives requires additional staffing, leading to an increase in employer costs. However, this investment will allow the Council to deliver more focussed, responsive and targeted services that residents have asked to see.

We must also be mindful of the scale of development taking place around us and the need to respond effectively to the challenges and opportunities it brings. This includes the South-East MK development of approximately 4,000 homes, the City Council's MK2050 Local Plan proposing around 60,000 new homes within the next 24 years, the East West Rail project, the impact of Universal Studios and other major infrastructure changes.

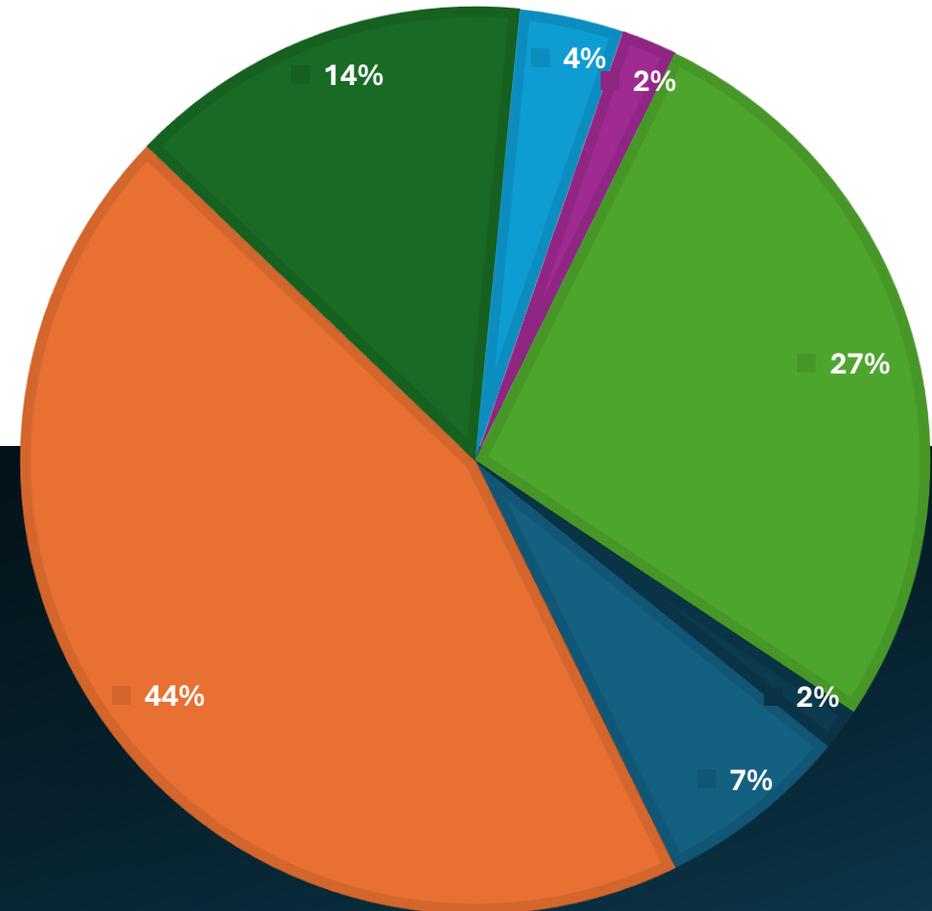
The Parish Council remains committed to delivering value for money and acting in the best interests of our community. Even with this increase, our precept remains the lowest of all surrounding Danesborough parishes.

A breakdown of Parish Council expenditure and income is provided in the accompanying charts. If you have any questions, please contact Wavendon Parish Council on 01908 229246 or email: Clerk@wavendonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

WAVENDON PARISH COUNCIL

2026/2027 EXPENDITURE

- Recreation / Grounds Maintenance
- Administration / Legal
- SEMK / EWR Consultation
- New Allotments
- Staff / Employer Costs
- Community Engagement
- Community Centres



WAVENDON PARISH COUNCIL 2026/2027
EXPENDITURE: £353,150

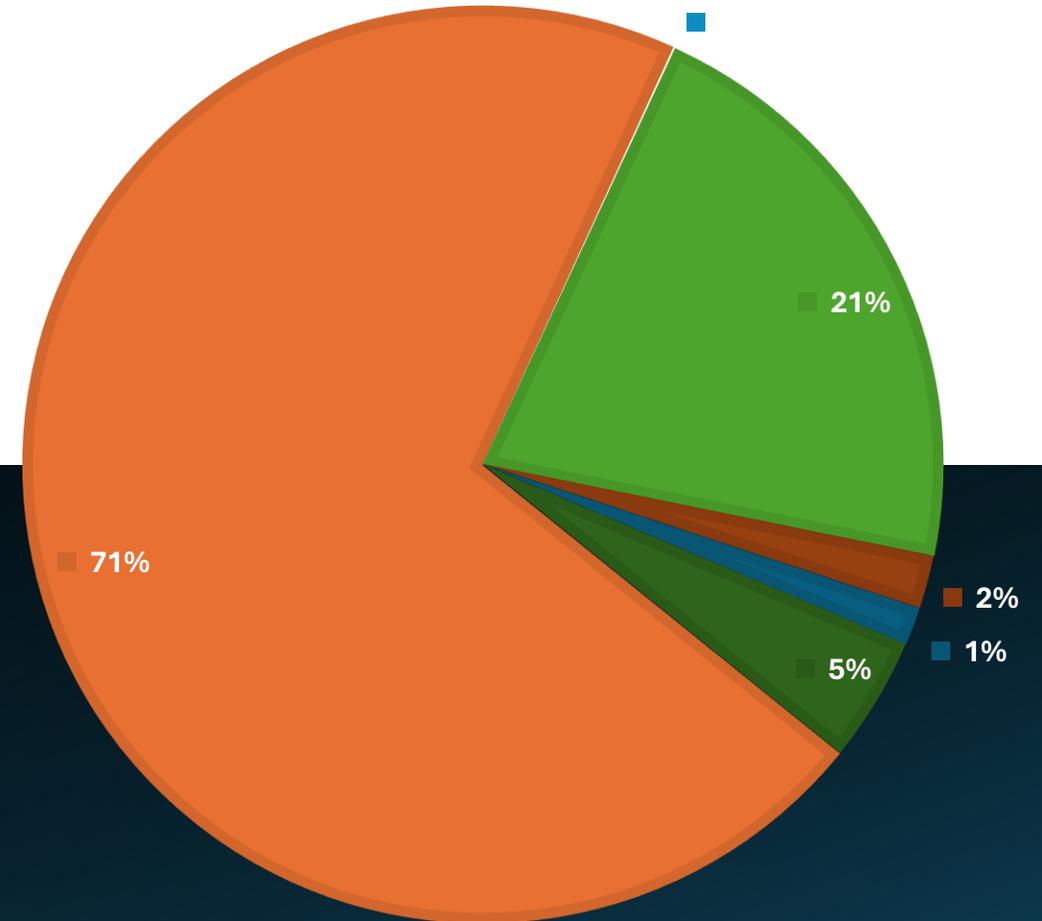
2026/2027 PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT: £266,150

2026/2027 PRECEPT PER BAND D HOUSEHOLD:
£86.41

WAVENDON PARISH COUNCIL

2026/2027 INCOME

- Precept
- Bank Interest
- Community Centres
- Match Funding for Solar Panels
- Allotments
- VAT Recovery



WAVENDON PARISH COUNCIL 2026/2027 INCOME:
£367,960

2026/2027 PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT: £266,150

2026/2027 PRECEPT PER BAND D HOUSEHOLD:
£86.41