

# BRINDLE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Precept 2024/2025

## **Introduction**

The precept is a tax that Brindle Parish Council charges to its local electors to meet its budget requirements. It is part of the Council Tax which is collected on behalf of Brindle Parish Council by Chorley Borough Council (as the local billing authority) in two instalments during the financial year in April and September.

As Brindle Parish Council is not able to generate income from any other means (for example the provision of services or facilities) it relies on the precept to function.

There are two other sources of funding available to the Parish Council which are as follows:

a. Grants/Funding Awards

The Parish Council can apply for other funding in the form of grants and awards (and is actively doing so) but they are generally ring-fenced for use on specific projects.

b. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Funding

The Parish Council receive CIL funding which is received from certain new developments within the area where the development itself does not produce any local amenity. CIL funding must be spent on a project which provides permanent infrastructure within the area.

Funding from these sources appear in the Brindle Parish Council accounts, but neither can be used in the day to day administration of the Parish.

## **Calculation**

The precept requirement is the difference between the Parish Council's estimated income and its anticipated spending requirements for the financial year, which runs from 31 March to 1 April.

When calculating the precept, Brindle Parish Council took into consideration the following:

- Maintenance, insurance and governance;
- Anticipated income from other sources (CIL and grants);
- Staffing;
- Additional spending plans or projects;
- Provision for contingencies and reserves (It is established good practice for a Parish Council to have reserves sufficient to support two years' worth of operations without other funding); and
- Current finances including spending levels.

## **Tax Base and Band D equivalent**

Part of the precept calculation is based on the "Band D" equivalent. Band D is the middle band of Council Tax and is supposed to represent the amount of Council Tax paid on an average property in the area. The Band D equivalent provides a measure which allows precepts amongst Councils of different sizes to be compared. The estimated number of Band D equivalent properties on the tax base is notified to the Parish Council by Chorley Borough Council prior to the Precept setting

exercise. The required precept is divided by the number of houses in the tax base to get the Band D equivalent.

### **Determination**

Following scrutiny and agreement of the budget, and taking all the above into careful consideration, the precept for 2024/2025 was agreed in the sum of £15,000 by Councillors at a full Parish Council meeting on 11 December 2023 which produces a Band D equivalent charge of £31.35 per annum.

The increase was necessary for:

- the continued functioning of the Parish Council; and
- to enable to the accrual of “best practice” reserve levels (the precept having remained static at £6257 since 2015 and increasing to £7500 in 2023/2024).

The increased precept is commensurate with local Parish Councils of similar size and issues, and will equate to an additional annual payment per household (517) of £14.51 per year, or £1.21 per month or 33p per week.