

# **Lympsham Parish Council**

## **Clerk's Report as Responsible Financial Officer March 2022.**

Lympsham Parish Council's finances remain healthy due to the sound financial management of the Council.

- The Precept is the amount of money the Parish Council ask the District Council for each year to fund their responsibilities in the community such as grounds maintenance, providing litter and dog bins, looking after the play area, and providing grants to local groups and projects. It forms part of your annual Council tax bill.
- This year the Parish Council has resolved to raise the Precept after carefully monitoring the Budget and expenditure, the Precept demand has risen for 2022-2023 from £16,400.00 to £20,000.00. What this actually means is that a Band D property will pay an additional 82 pence per month to the Parish Council.

This decision was taken for the following reasons:

- To allow for inflation and increases from suppliers and contractors.
- The Precept has been lower than required to cover the expenditure of the Parish and this has meant the reserves held have been less than the minimum requirement of 6-12 months of expenditure.
- To recognise that Parish and Town Councils may be expected to take on increased amounts of local services going forward into a Unitary Council and yet may be capped in the future, in the way that District Councils have been capped. I am confident that all financial decisions taken by the Parish Council have been sound and based on careful reviewing of past and future Budgets.

Sally Ferguson

Clerk to Lympsham Parish Council

19<sup>th</sup> March 2022