

# Milborne Port Parish Council

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**BUDGET 2023/24**

# Core Services We Provide Locally

**The Cemetery**

**Gainsborough Allotments**

**A Library**

Now in the Town Hall

**Recreational Facilities**

Inc Gainsborough & Springfield

**Open Spaces**

Inc Grove Garden and the Ball Court

**The Town Hall**  
Home for the W.I.

**Community Office/Staff**

**Street Furniture:**  
Bins, Grit Bins, Seats

**Joint projects and supporting local community groups (Grants!)**

# The Current Position for 2022/23



The RFO is predicting a reserves spend at year end of about £5,000 – This is less than was expected / budgeted for as saving have been made throughout the year.



The council had a general reserve of £157,372 at the start of the year, of which £29,600 is earmarked, leaving £127,772 – this is healthy.



During the year the Council received £10,302 in S106 revenue payments – the year before it was £23,000 – these are one-off up-front payments to pay for maintenance of equipment over 10 years.



The new Somerset Council faces a challenging financial situation, it seems unlikely there will be much grant support from it.

# How is the Council funded?

Most of the Parish Council's income comes from the local council tax, but in addition to this;

£16,123 in grant funding has been achieved so far this year

The council makes over £9,000 from service incomes  
This year it will have spent £60,307 of S106 money

The Council's current precept is £119,255  
Council Tax Band D is £103.44 per household

Residents' contribution to the Parish Council makes up less than 8% of the total council tax bill

## How the Council compares (2022/23)

Council	Precept	Band D per Household
Bruton	£141,414	£149.88
Castle Cary	£187,500	£225.22
Langport	£89,235	£277.83
Henstridge	£65,000	£97.64
Martock	£381,763	£228.67
South Petherton	£210,000	£141.73
Wincanton	£392,734	£183.06
Milborne Port	£119,255	£103.44

Organisations  
that the Parish  
Council has  
supported:



**The Village Hall - Springfield**



**The Playing Fields Committee - Springfield**



**Friends of MP Library / The Library**



**Milborne Port Foodshare**



**The Climate Change Group**



**Milborne Port W.I.**



**The Spirit of Milborne Port**

**Organisations  
that the Parish  
Council has  
supported:**



**SSDC Market Towns Initiative** (now disbanded)



**The History and Heritage Group (the Chapel)**



**Milborne Port In Bloom**



**The Community Website**



**The Primary School**



...all of whom are hoping for continued support in 2023/24.

## Why the budget has increased...



The precept has been historically low, meaning low investment in assets. The Council is still catching up on routine maintenance / investment.



The committees want to carry out **five** new projects during 2023/24



The cost of maintaining/ delivering all the current services continues to increase. With inflation being about 10%



# The Budget Process:

The Committees meet in November / December to review the current spending that they are responsible for and make recommendations for the following year.

The Planning & Environment Committee debated its budget in November and has agreed a budget.

The Management Committee looked at its budget in November and the projects it wants to carry out and has agreed a budget.

The Full Council has scrutinised the General Administration costs and projects in December and agreed a budget. The HR Committee has also resolved on its requirements

The agreed funding requirements from all the committees are all added together to form the Council's budget = Zero budget process = best practise.



# Milborne Port Parish Council

**BUDGET 2023/24**

# General Administration Costs:

	Full Council / H.R.	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	Estimated Outturn	2023-24 Budget
	<b>General Admin:</b>					
4	Training (Staff & Councillors)	£ 900	£ 900	£ 700	£ 871	£ 800
6	Members Expenses			£ 250	£ 114	£ 200
8	SLCC Fees	£ 100	£ 140	£ 160	£ 273	£ 273
9	SALC Fees	£ 800	£ 810	£ 830	£ 842	£ 842
16	Travel Expenses	£ 300	£ 200	£ 200	£ 180	£ 220
17	Website Costs	£ 500	£ 400	£ 200	£ 155	£ 200
18	Telephone/Broadband	£ 800	£ 800	£ 650	£ 360	£ 400
19	Office Costs & Stationery	£ 1,700	£ 1,500	£ 1,600	£ 1,420	£ 1,500
20	Software Subscriptions (Zoom, Microsoft)	£ 510	£ 400	£ 350	£ 200	£ 250
21	Accounting Software		£ 385	£ 480	£ 561	£ 648
22	Mobile Phone Credit		£ 120	£ 140	£ 130	£ 140
25	Elections / Covid Contingency	£ 1,500	£ 1,500	£ 1,000	£ 1,098	Diss
34	Insurance	£ 3,000	£ 2,656	£ 2,800	£ 2,868	£ 2,900
35	External Audit fees	£ 500	£ 400	£ 400	£ 600	£ 600
66	ICO Fees	£ 35	£ 35	£ 35	£ 35	£ 35
67	Postage Stamps	£ 100	£ 300	£ 250	£ 175	£ 200
73	Internal Audit Fees	£ 1,000	£ 750	£ 750	£ 750	£ 825
	Bank / Card Fees	£ 100				
		£ 11,845	£ 11,296	£ 10,795	£ 10,632	£ 10,033

# Community Grants & Library

Full Council		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Estimated	2023-24
Community Grants / FC Projects:		Budget	Budget	Budget	Outturn	Budget
33	Christmas Tree	£ 260	£ 170	£ 200	£ 550	£ 750
36	Community Grants/Donations	£ 10,000	£ 10,000	£ 10,000	£ 15,500	£ 12,000
88	CIL Project: Town Hall Roof Repair			£ -	£ 750	N/A
201	Youth Council Budget			£ 4,000	£ -	£ 2,000
202	S106 Project: Fencing Gains Park			Self Funding		N/A
203	Project: Local Council Award			£ -	£ 120	N/A
204	S106 Project: S 'Field New Play Equmnet			Self Funding		N/A
	S106 Project: S'Field New Fencing					£ 2,000
205	GRANT: SSDC MTIG (Street Furniture)			Self Funding		N/A
87	Project: Town Hall Defibrillator			N/A		N/A
85	Project: Relocation of Arbour	£ 3,000	N/A	N/A		N/A
New	Legal Fees / Costs					£ 2,000
		£ 13,000	£ 10,000	£ 14,000	£ 16,920	£ 18,750

Budget	Outturn	2023-24
£ 35,415	£ 41,164	£ 43,903

Full Council		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Estimated	2023-24
Library Provision:		Budget	Budget	Budget	Outturn	Budget
38	Staffing	£ 9,070	£ 9,340	£ 9,620	£ 9,102	£ 9,620
39	Other Running Costs (Inc Bus Electricity)	£ 1,000	£ 1,000	£ 1,000	£ 4,510	£ 500
New	Library Town Hall Electricity			£ -	£ 1,500	£ 5,000
		£ 10,070	£ 10,340	£ 10,620	£ 13,612	£ 15,120

## H.R. Budget:

Expected outturn this year  
£32,000

**HR COMMITTEE  
REQUIREMENT FOR 2023/24:  
£34,000**

The Management Committee		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Estimated	2023-24
Open Spaces (Inc Projects):		Budget	Budget	Budget	Outturn	Budget
37	Loan Repayment	£ 3,400	£ 3,390			N/A
40	Contracted Grass Cutting / Hedge	£ 12,800	£ 7,000	£ 7,100	£ 6,780	£ 7,460
41	Tree Works / Parish Repair / Maintenance	£ 3,000	£ 5,000	£ 3,000	£ 3,400	£ 4,000
43	Community Woodland	£ 250	£ 150	£ 150	£ 150	£ 165
44	Parish Ranger Scheme	£ 10,500	£ 10,500	£ 10,500	£ 7,000	£ 9,500
45	Odd-job person (Self-employed)			£ 7,800	£ -	N/A
50	Churchyard Exps / Mower Maint / fuel	£ 4,000	£ 200	£ 200	£ 140	£ 155
55	Materials / Tools for Groundsman			£ 2,500	£ -	N/A
62	Hanging Baskets (SSDC)	£ 2,000	£ 1,340	£ 1,380	£ 1,495	£ 2,000
New	Watering of H/Baskets					£ 2,000
70	Footpaths Warden Costs					£ 200
400	Project: Corner Clear Cemetery			£ 1,000	£ -	N/A
401	Project: New Fence Cemetery			£ 2,000	£ 6,610	N/A
402	Project: Skatepark resurface			£ 5,000	£ -	N/A
403	Project: D'fib Cemetery				£ 2,561	N/A
404	Project: Chapple Roof				£ 10,625	N/A
407	Project: Spoil Heap Removal				£ 2,500	N/A
New	New Fence Gains' Play Park					£ 5,000
New	Repair Ball Court Flooring					£ 5,000
New	Sandblast Rails Churchyard + Cem					£ 2,000
New	Allotment Entrance Tarmac					£ 2,000
New	Springfield Entrance Landscape					£ 750
81	Project: Ball Court Wall	£ 2,000				
82	Project: Churchyard footpaths	£ 4,000				
83	Project: Seats repair and paint	£ 500				
86	Project: Seat / bench for Arbour		£ 750			
89	Project: Storage Unit		Self-funding			
80	Waste/ Dog Bin Replacements	£ 450				
45	Replace water pipes					
84	Project: Water fountain (Gans)	£ 400				
78	Project: Trees & Shrubs (Cem)	£ 1,500				
31	Project: Clock Repair (Town Hall)					
		£ 44,800	£ 28,330	£ 40,630	£ 41,261	£ 40,230

# Open Spaces - Inc Projects:

# Allotments:

	The Management Committee	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	Estimated Outturn	2023-24 Budget
	<b>Allotments:</b>					
52	Water rates	£ 1,030	£ 800	£ 400	£ 350	£ 385
53	Repairs & Maintenance	£ 2,540	£ 3,140	£ 3,000	£ 1,080	£ 500
91	NAA Membership				£ 60	£ 65
		£ 3,570	£ 3,940	£ 3,400	£ 1,490	£ 950

# Cemetery:

	The Management Committee	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	Estimated Outturn	2023-24 Budget
	<b>The Cemetery / Chapel:</b>					
49	Non-domestic Rates	£ 1,850	£ 2,100	£ 2,400	£ 2,370	£ 2,610
79	Repairs / Maintenances	£ 1,500	£ 2,000	£ 1,500	£ 1,530	£ 700
		£ 3,350	£ 4,100	£ 3,900	£ 3,900	£ 3,310



# Play Parks:

	The Management Committee	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Estimated	2023-24
	Play Parks (Springfield & Gainsborough)-	Budget	Budget	Budget	Outturn	Budget
54	Playgrounds Inspections	£ 400	£ 400	£ 250	£ 240	£ 265
56	Repairs & Maintenance	£ 1,500	£ 1,500	£ 1,600	£ 2,000	£ 3,000
		£ 1,900	£ 1,900	£ 1,850	£ 2,240	£ 3,265

# Springfield Recreation:

	The Management Committee	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Estimated	2023-24
	Springfield Recreation Ground-	Budget	Budget	Budget	Outturn	Budget
42	Dog Waste Bins Emptying (Springfield)	£ 3,100	£ 2,800	£ 2,900	£ 2,700	£ 2,970
57	Pavilion Toilet Cleaning / Drains	£ 1,600	£ 1,600	£ 1,600	£ 1,740	£ 1,910
58	Toilet Equipment / Supplies / Maintenance		£ 100	£ 50	£ 267	£ 300
61	Dog Poo Bags		£ 100	£ 100	£ 168	£ 180
74	Hedge Cutting (Car Park)				£ 460	£ 500
75	Grass Cutting (separated from all other areas)		£ 6,000	£ 5,600	£ 4,900	£ 5,400
		£ 4,700	£ 10,600	£ 10,250	£ 10,235	£ 11,260

# The Town Hall:

	The Management Committee	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Estimated	2023-24
	The Town Hall-	Budget	Budget	Budget	Outturn	Budget
5	Cleaning / Cleaner	£ 200			£ 360	£ 2,000
27	Non-domestic Rates	£ 650	£ 720	£ 820	£ 935	£ 1,030
28	Electricity	£ 700	£ 500	£ 400	£ 1,300	£ 1,800
29	Water	£ 200	£ 110	£ 110	£ 260	£ 270
30	Repairs / Maintenance	£ 6,000	£ 7,500	£ 7,500	£ 7,500	£ 7,500
32	Fire Safety Service	£ 210	£ 280	£ 200	£ 220	£ 240
64	Cleaning Supplies	£ 50	N/A	£ 40	£ 40	£ 200
		£ 8,010	£ 9,110	£ 9,070	£ 10,615	£ 13,040

Budget	Outturn	2023-24
£ 69,100	£ 69,741	£ 72,055

# Planning & Environment:

		2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	Estimated Outturn	2023-24 Budget
	<b>Planning &amp; Environment Committee:</b>					
100	S106 Project: Rugby Pitch Conversion				£ 3,137	N/A
121	Neighbourhood Plan					£ -
146	Streetscape & Signage	£ 1,000	£ 1,000	£ 1,000	£ 1,250	£ 500
151	Contingency for Play Areas Development		£ 3,500			N/A
152	Community Hub - Earmarked Fund		£ 7,500	£ 7,500	Earmarked	£ 5,000
150	Multi-use Access Trail - Earmarked Fund		£ 3,000			£ -
New	Built Environment Projects					£ 1,000
		£ 1,000	£ 15,000	£ 8,500	£ 4,387	£ 6,500

# Total Budget 2023/24:

- ▶ The 2022/23 Budget was £143,215
- ▶ This year's budget is an 8.8% increase in spend

	2023/24
<b>Full Council:</b>	£ 43,903
<b>Human Resources:</b>	£ 34,000
<b>Management</b>	£ 72,055
<b>Planning &amp; Environment:</b>	£ 6,500
	<b>£ 156,458</b>

<b>Receipts / Income :</b>		<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
901	Bank account interest	£ 150	Zero	Zero	£ 400
68	WI Room	£ 268	£ 277	£ 277	£ 2,100
47/48	Memorials/ Burials/ Purchases	£ 5,000	£ 6,000	£ 5,500	£ 6,000
51	Allotment Rents	£ 1,400	£ 2,455	£ 2,600	£ 2,675
904	Wayleaves	£ 88	£ 88	£ 88	£ 88
26	Town Hall Room		£ 720	£ 720	£ 720
		<b>£ 6,906</b>	<b>£ 9,540</b>	<b>£ 9,185</b>	<b>£ 11,983</b>

# The Council's Incomes:

## The 2023/24 Budget:

### Spend:

The 2023/24 budget total is:

**£156,458**

### Income:

The expected income 2023/24 is:

**£11,983**

26.4 % increase in income

### Difference:

The difference is:

**£144,475**

(Last year £134,303)

7.5% increase after income

## The 2023/24 Precept:

Budget:

£156,458

Income:

£11,983

**Difference to be funded:**

**£144,475**

The Council is holding a healthy reserve, this gives the council options and allows for unknown costs.

There are a few large projects in the pipeline that could have a larger price tag than current predictions.

However, some of the reserve could be used to offset some of the council tax increase.

The RFO has prepared three options for the Council to choose from



# Options for the Precept...

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24
		After Income:	£ 134,030	£ 144,475	£ 144,475	£ 144,475
				Option A	Option B	Option C
		To come from General Reserve	£ 14,775	No spend from reserve	£ 10,000	£ 20,000
<b>The Precept</b>	£ 115,659	£ 116,255	£ 119,255	£ 144,475	£ 134,475	£ 124,475
	100.94 Band D	100.94 Band D	103.44 Band D	122.75 Band D	114.26 Band D	105.76 Band D
			£2.50 ex per year	£19.31 ex per year	£10.82 ex per year	£2.32 per year

## A reminder of how the Council compares (2022/23)

<b>Council</b>	<b>Precept</b>	<b>Band D per Household</b>
Bruton	£141,414	£149.88
Castle Cary	£187,500	£225.22
Langport	£89,235	£277.83
Henstridge	£65,000	£97.64
Martock	£381,763	£228.67
South Petherton	£210,000	£141.73
Wincanton	£392,734	£183.06
Milborne Port	£119,255	£103.44

# Looking ahead....

## More homes...

While more homes do equal more S106 money and more people paying into the council tax pot, they also mean more strain on the existing infrastructure and Parish Council resources.

## Fewer Councils...

### Somerset Council:

By May 2023, the County will have gone from having 4 District Councils and 1 County Council to having just one Council that encompasses the roles of both District and County.

## Service Levelling...

A better phrase than Service Cuts but amounts to the same thing.

The new Somerset Council will want all the districts to work in the same way. It is likely that the extra services that the Parish benefits from by being in South Somerset will come under review.