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Precept for Cleobury Mortimer 2024-25

We have kept the cost of Town Council services to our community at the same level for five years even though costs have increased massively over the past two years. We have managed to absorb the increasing costs from our reserves during the worst of the cost-of-living and high-inflation periods. We now need to increase our charge to the community to enable us to continue to maintain our assets (Love Lane Play Area, the Playing Field, QE11 Park, Cemetery, The Wells and the Toilets) and provide services such as street lighting, bins and benches etc and ensure that they are maintained at the increasingly higher standard demanded by the community. In addition, the current tree safety/management work across all our sites is forecasted at £35,000 and will take ¼ of our total income - the precept.

For 2024-25, the Town Council precept cost per household, using Council Tax D properties (a typical 4-bedroom detached house) as the average, will increase from £96.25 to £114.95 per year, which is the equivalent of 35p per week. As a percentage of the overall Council Tax Bill, this is an increase of 0.9% on last year's total Council Tax Bill for a Band D property.

Our future plans to improve The Wells, QE11 Park and the Playing Field's facilities will be largely funded from grants. We do work with Shropshire Council through their Environmental Maintenance Grant scheme which assists them with tidying and cleaning pavements, verges and car parks. We hope to continue working productively with them to improve the natural environment and the visual amenity of our community. We especially value, and sincerely thank all the community-minded volunteers who assist with the Christmas light displays, litter-picking and community asset maintenance either as community groups or individuals. Their huge contribution has helped to keep costs down and saved the community thousands of pounds each year.

Thank you.

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