

## **BUDGET 2020/21**

Charlton Kings Parish Council (CKPC) consists of 17 unpaid councillors supported by 3 part time employees, including the Parish Clerk. We endeavour to support, maintain and improve the Parish for its inhabitants.

The precept this year increased by £13,701 (12.7%). This is the second year that we have asked for a significant increase. The increase for the last financial year of 2019/20 was largely to fund our intended redevelopment of The Kings Hall. Although there are no physical signs of activity CKPC has employed an architect to draw up plans and engaged in extensive consultation with the community. We have reserved unspent money to pay for some of the expenditure we expect to incur in 2020/21.

Our requirement for additional funds in 2020/21, over and above the costs of the Kings Hall redevelopment, is to pay for several new initiatives.

Our new projects include the following:

- CKPC has allocated money to the upkeep of the St. Mary's churchyard, some of which will be allocated to a fund for big repairs in the future. The Church has the legal right to transfer responsibility for the upkeep of churchyards that are not in active use to the local authority. CKPC believe it is important that this central public space is maintained properly for the benefit of parishioners.
- We will improve and increase the number of Parish notice boards to promote community engagement in CKPC activities. Most of the notice boards are in poor repair and need replacing. CKPC also decided to erect new notice boards in locations that only became part of the parish when the boundaries were expanded in 2018.
- The second phase of an exercise to establish the level of loneliness in the community and identify measures to alleviate it.
- We will start implementing CKPC's environmental strategy to become carbon neutral and reduce the carbon footprint of the wider community,
- We will promote Christmas decorations at Sixways.

To offset this additional expenditure and reduce the cost to parishioners CKPC has managed to save over £4,300 in administrative costs of our other functions such as looking after the allotments, managing the Stanton Suite, maintaining the public toilets, the Church Piece environs and the newly acquired Grange Field.

In summary, CKPC has an ambitious range of projects that will improve the lives of many parishioners for the total cost to a Charlton Kings Band D precept paying household of £0.47p per week.

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020