

Notes for draft budget proposal 2020 2021

Ref: KPC Meeting 13 January 2021 Appendix 6a

Appendix 6 is the proposed budget for 2021 2022.

Brief annotations are included on the budget sheet but other key points are:

1. Due to the uncertain circumstances around Covid-19 at the time of setting the budget external sources of funding toward the pavilion cannot be presumed. It falls to the precept as a guaranteed source of funds to support the council's activities in carrying out its duties and responsibilities. The intention is that there will not be a precept increase on last year's figure while the budget accounts for a restoration to full activity at the pavilion for the year 2021 2022.
2. Pavilion maintenance - Provision has been included in the budget for some periodic maintenance on the pavilion such as for redecoration and building maintenance as well as annual and ongoing general maintenance costs/contracts.

Following the flood at the pavilion in early 2020 the insurance claim has covered the cost of refurbishment works and toward the cost of excess water "spillage" from the flood.

The allocation of funds to support members of the pavilion committee to attend anti-legionnaires training is included in the training budget for discussion. Allocation has been made for two members to attend.

It is understood that the external joinery needs urgent attention by way of maintenance and re-finish (not the cladding which is to mature with age). Quotes are being sought and it is suggested that these works fall within use of existing general reserve funds rather than precept so will be included in the reserves budget.

3. Grass cutting – This element is updated to allow service cost increases.

Trees – The last full tree survey on KPC lands was carried out during 2020 and works from the survey will commence during the current year 2020 2021, and budgeted for ongoing work during 2021 2022. The 2021 2022 budget also includes funds to cover the cost of any future unforeseen but necessary tree/hedgerow works in accordance with the KPC tree maintenance policy.

4. KPC Small Grants Scheme – as agreed by the council provision has been made in the budget for £1000 to be available via its new small grants scheme which will be open for application April 2021.
5. Communications/IT – The new website went "live" during September 2020 and costs for its hosting and maintenance will be via a set annual fee. Additional funds have been allocated within the budget for any unforeseeable costs relating to council IT.
6. General operating costs – Insurance – A new premium term will be negotiated this year and at this time it is unknown what effect the pavilion flood claims will have on that.

7. External audit fee charged 2020 2021 has doubled against last year so this element has increased.

Legal fees provision allows for any professional fees for consultation/advice.

8. The amounts included for transfer to play area and tennis court maintenance reserves cover all potential works for those facilities. Any spend on these during a year will now be reported via the quarterly report on reserves to council.
9. The annual budget Appendix 6 relates to the “community” current account. Use of reserve funds is be agreed independently of this.

In accordance to the internal auditors guidance [2020], a reserves’ account budget will be presented to the January meeting along with the final community budget.

The council is asked to consider the revised draft budget Appendix 6, and agree its approval for submission to the precept authority Lewes District Council.