



# COSBY PARISH COUNCIL

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## Cosby Parish Council Precept for the year 2025/26

The 2025/26 Precept sets a stable, responsible and balanced budget and Precept necessary for the Parish of Cosby and which continues to put the Parish Council on a firm footing for both the current and future years, recognise and address risks but also is sensitive to the current cost-of-living challenges.

The Parish Council recognises the future risks to funding, increasing costs and liabilities and progressive ambitions for the village of Cosby. The Parish Council will continue to invest in the provision of valuable services in support of the parishioners of Cosby including Cemetery Maintenance, Children's Playground, Victory Park, Christmas lights, Cosby Brook, community events, recreation facilities and the wider maintenance and development of our Public Open Spaces including c:200 trees.

Cosby Village Hall is a Community Asset which is expected to transfer to the Cosby Recreation Ground Charity of which, the Parish Council are the responsible Trustees during the financial year. A small provision of £10,000 is included in the 2025/26 budget for staff and repairs.

The Parish Council recognises the inefficiencies and burdens placed on the administration staff in the continued absence of a parish office and will continue to explore options for the future. The Village Hall will not provide any opportunity for the Parish Council Office to be accommodated within it.

The Parish Council strives to minimise the cost to local tax-payers but recognises its overall responsibility to the village of Cosby with rapidly increasing costs, but principally has only two income streams, the Council Tax Precept and Cosby Cemetery. The Parish Council therefore plans its budget accordingly and builds up reserves to fund new projects, equipment replacement and village maintenance.

	<b>Budget headlines</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>
<b>Income</b>	Precept, Bank interest & Cemetery	£169,993	£183,939
<b>Costs:</b>	Administration, Legal and IT	£5,042	£5,188
	Employment Costs	£72,607	£87,447
	Council office and property	£6,330	£6,720
	Cemetery	£2,140	£1,605
	Victory Park and Public Open Spaces	£24,000	£25,050

Community and environmental	£16,724	£15,820
Accruals against planned future expenditure	£31,900	£38,749
Other and incidental costs	£6,250	£6,360

The Precept Demand of £176,764 equates to an increase of £21,671 (13.67%) an average of **(£0.345p)** per week, per Band D property for the residents of Cosby for the year 2025/26. This increase is necessary to enable the Parish Council to fund the 2024/25 Local Government pay awards with provision for a 3% pay increase in the 2025/26 financial year and to continue to invest in staff; training, property, recreation, sports, leisure and equipment for the future and to provide Cosby-wide improvements for our parishioners.

### **Council Office**

Cosby Parish Council remains in need of an office to operate efficiently, provide our staff with practical accommodation, manage the village services and ensure that the parish council is visible and accessible for the residents of Cosby.

A number of options continue to be considered.

### **Recreation and Leisure**

Cosby Parish Council will continue to take a progressive approach to investment in community recreation facilities including open spaces, playground equipment, village projects and community events whilst also supporting community groups with village activities and small grants.

The Parish Council is in discussions with the sports teams, agencies and consultants with the ambition of improving the quality of the Victory Park sports fields and providing improved facilities.

The Parish Council is working on a major business case for the improvement of and expansion of facilities on Cosby Victory Park. Substantial grant funding will be required to deliver the Parish Councils ambitions and the Parish Council also faces the substantial future costs approaching £1,000,000 if, as and when ownership of Cosby Village Hall transfers to the responsibility of Cosby Parish Council.

### **Cemetery**

Cosby Parish Council is looking to bring the Cemetery Chapel back into use for the benefit of the entire community and will be seeking to secure a Heritage Lottery Grant to achieve this.

Planning permission has been secured to re-purpose the Cemetery Chapel as a low value Parish Council office but this is a significant project to deliver which requires a business case to be developed for grant funding.

### **Cosby Parish Council newsletter**

The Parish Council continues to invest in this service to ensure that all parishioners are kept informed of developments, events and opportunities within the village.

Les Phillimore  
Parish Manager, Clerk and RFO to Cosby Parish Council  
23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025

