



St Ives Town Council

Explanatory Notes – the Town Council portion of the Council Tax bill

St Ives Town Council has set its budget for the financial year 2015/2016 in order to be able to maintain the services it is committed to providing, in the most cost effective way possible. Services provided include management of the Guildhall (with provision for concerts, plays, functions and weddings), tourist information, allotments, footpath maintenance, heritage buildings such as the Island Chapel, enforcement of the beach dog control orders, traffic control, civic and community events, and the running of the public conveniences.

Funding the public conveniences is an issue because the large grant which we received from Cornwall Council last year has been cut to zero. This means that the town council has to find other ways to pay for and provide clean public toilets throughout the year. So far, thanks to local businesses volunteering to help with the winter opening, and the making of savings and efficiencies, the town council has been able to provide the toilets for the main summer season, and a reduced service throughout the rest of the year.

Areas of note in this year's budget are:

- Public conveniences – grant funding of just over £80,000 has been withdrawn by Cornwall Council, and the town council is also having to invest in essential improvement works
- Following successful negotiations, Cornwall Council has agreed a car park levy contribution of £50,000 for the 2015/2016 year.
- Because the Neighbourhood Plan is nearing completion, only £1,000 has been budgeted – a saving on last year
- Increased provision for facilities management to keep up with the responsibilities that the town council has taken on
- To help to make up for the increases elsewhere, a number of costs have been scaled down.

2014/2015

2015/2016

Gross budgeted expenditure	Gross budgeted income	Net budgeted expenditure		Gross budgeted expenditure	Gross budgeted income	Net budgeted expenditure
130,115	36,030	94,085	General (administration, property, civic, hospitality)	151,055	50,650	100,405
10,000	-	10,000	Community Grants	10,000	-	10,000
39,701	6,666	33,035	Services & projects	38,565	6,666	31,899
71,510	40,000	31,510	Guildhall	74,900	51,000	23,900
124,896	86,487	38,409	Public Conveniences	170,120	6,000	164,120
91,000	76,000	15,000	Visitor & Information Centre	89,030	86,550	2,480
20,034	3,706	16,328	Neighbourhood Plan	1,000	-	1,000
40,000	-	40,000	Devolution (new services)	20,000	-	20,000
			Contribution from Cornwall Council	-	50,000	-50,000
5,000	7,000	-2,000	Transfers to / from reserves	5,000	-	5,000
532,256	255,889	276,367*		559,670	250,866	308,804

(* council tax support funding and precept)

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In 2015/2016 the net budgeted expenditure will be funded by the precept (£287,348) which forms part of this council tax bill and the council tax support funding (£21,456) – totalling £308,804.

It has been calculated that the town council's element of the Council Tax for a Band D equivalent property for the coming year is £56.69. Therefore the increase for the St Ives Town Council element of the council tax from 2014/15 to 2015/16 for a Band D property is £4.69 for the year.

For more information about the work of St Ives Town Council, visit our website at www.stivestowncouncil.co.uk (or for the Visit St Ives: www.visitstives.org.uk). Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the council and its committees.

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