

**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
of Newdigate Parish Council  
Tuesday 3 January 2023 at 7.15pm**

PRESENT: William Harmsworth (Chairman) Bill Kear, John Sage, Richard Tyson-Davies  
Also in attendance: Jackie Tyrrell (Clerk)

APOLOGIES: Phill Crutcher

1. The finance Committee discussed the budget and expenditure to date and up to the end of the financial year as at 31 March 2023. All agreed that the bank balance looked healthy and represented the budget forecast that was set in January 2022.
2. The Precept requirement figure is to be submitted to MVDC by Friday 13 January 2023. All councillors acknowledged the letter received from Mr Mahmud Rogers (Chief Accountant). For Newdigate PC the local tax base for tax setting purposes for 2023/4 has been calculated as 894. There has been a small, general reduction in the tax base due to an increase in Claimants for local council tax support and an increase in the number of properties lost due to bad debt. Other changes to the local tax base from last year's figure of 917 may be due to changes in the number of properties in each band, new or demolished properties and discounts relating to exemptions and second homes. After discussion all Councillors agreed that **no** percentage increase should be applied to the Precept requested from MVDC due to the current extra financial pressures being felt by the residents of Newdigate due to countrywide inflation. Therefore, a figure of £16,876.00 paid in two equal instalments for period 2023/24 is proposed and must be agreed by Full Council at the meeting on 9 January 2023.
3. The Committee noted the additional back-dated sum representing the pay increase as agreed by NALC 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 for the Clerk's December salary.
4. An email was received from Sarah Oram, Community Infrastructure Levy Officer of MVDC requesting details of any CIL monies that has been spent on community projects. Councillors acknowledged this request, and the Clerk will respond advising that these monies will contribute towards to purchase of a VAS sign for the village.
5. The Committee discussed the allotment rents which are currently £20 pa per plot of which there are 8 in total. When including the costs of the water for the year of approx. £120 pa and the rent to Mr Frost of £10 pa. the Committee propose an increase from 1 January 2023 to £40 per plot pa for rental of an allotment.

The meeting ended at 8.10 pm