



CAM PARISH COUNCIL

YOUR COUNCIL TAX EXPLAINED 2022/2023

This leaflet aims to explain your contribution to Cam Parish Council, how it is spent and how you might get more involved in the future.

What is a Precept? A precept is the Council Tax that the billing authority (in this case, Stroud District Council) collects on behalf of a Parish Council. Cam Parish Council receives its funding mainly from the precept.

How is it calculated? The Parish Council estimates the income and expenditure needed for the next financial year according to its planned projects, maintenance, staffing and/or potential unexpected events.

This figure is then calculated as an amount per Council Tax Band D property and added to the Council Tax bill of all the dwellings in the parish.

How much is it? The small element of your Council Tax which comes our way has increased for this coming financial year by 1.83%. Due to the Parish Council's increasing service provision, including the addition of improving open spaces that require annual grounds maintenance, the Council made the decision to still increase its Council Tax next year but by a very small amount.

From April 2021, the cost of an average band D household has increased from £87.95 to £89.78 for the year, an increase of £1.83 per annum which works out at about 4p per household per week.

Cam Parish Council has succeeded in keeping increases low for the past few years and will continue to strive to supply good quality services and facilities.

How is it spent? The Parish Council promotes the interests of Cam in its representations to other bodies and works in partnership with the District Council, County Council, and other agencies to provide and supplement Local Government services within Cam.

The Parish Council is consulted on all planning applications made in respect of properties in Cam and written representations are submitted.

Meetings of Cam Parish Council are open to the press and public and all meetings are publicised on Cam Parish Council's web site. These meetings represent opportunities for members of the public to raise any comments or queries with the Parish Council. It is helpful if you contact us prior to attending a meeting so that the Council is better informed and able to help but all are welcome to attend.

Included within the services provided and/or subsidised by the Parish Council are:

- Cam Parish Office and Café building
- Sports Pavilion at Jubilee Playing Field
- Rackleaze Wildlife and Recreation Area
- Cam Green Play Area
- Jubilee Playing Field
- Woodfields Play Area
- Allotments at Woodfields, Westend, Upthorpe and 2 further sites at Ashmead
- Youth work provision at Cam Youth Club and partnership working with Dursley
- Joint Woodland Management Committee: supporting management and protection of Cam Peak and our heritage woodlands
- GL11 Community support
- Public Rights of Way/Snicket-way maintenance
- Hopton Green & Cam Pitch War Memorials

Cam Parish council has calculated the following budget for financial year 2022-2023

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| Service Support | £31,380 |
| (H&S, Subscriptions, Advertising, IT, Audits, Elections, Banking, Website, Professional Fees) | |
| Premises Costs | £14,685 |
| (Maintenance, Loans, Broadband, Phones, Cleaning, Rates, Power etc) | |
| Community Improvements | £73,850 |
| (Bus shelters, Handyperson, Highway Support, Grants, Community Events, Wildlife Area, Footpaths) | |
| Recreation & Leisure | £83,670 |
| (Allotments, Play Areas, Grounds Maintenance, Amenity Furniture, War Memorials, Landscaping & Tree Management) | |
| Staffing & Associated Costs | £157,500 |
| TOTAL | £361,085 |
| Use of Balances/Reserves | £70,000 |
| Precept Requirement | £291,085 |



Our Village Improvements...What's next?

It is your Council's ambition to make Cam a desirable and welcoming place to live, work and visit.

This current year, we have continued to invest in your parish. Cam Parish Council always seeks to improve the play areas and public open spaces. The perimeter footpath at Jubilee Playing Field has been diverted to take users away from the skatepark. Drainage pipes have been fitted beneath this new 160-metre path to help prevent the puddling issues suffered at other areas of the playing fields. The playing field is hoped to be further improved this summer with the creation of two new play areas, one for toddlers and the other for children aged up to 12-years-old.

We have also installed CCTV at the jubilee field following concerns about anti social behaviour and the outdoor fitness equipment has received a make-over. Dog fouling at the field has been reduced as a result of the provision of new poo bins and bag dispenser on site.

New wildlife friendly hedging has been planted at Woodfield Play Area to replace the old, deteriorating wooden fence. The hedging is a mix of hazel, hornbeam, field maple and dogwood.

The council also aims to defend and protect our parish from unwanted developments. The Neighbourhood Plan has been adopted after being supported by more than 85% of voters at council elections. This important planning document gives clarity on working with developers in the future to retain Cam's special character, such as steering the way houses will look and the type of materials used. Stroud's Local Plan has allocated further homes for Cam, some funding was spent on professional services assisting the Planning committee with their objection reports.

Allotment gardening is still popular with people wanting to grow their own produce and help maintain a healthy life balance. The demand throughout the parish is high, but Cam residents can be added to the waiting list.

To keep up to date with Cam Parish news, residents are encouraged to 'like' us on our social media page and download our monthly newsletters. Copies may be downloaded from the Parish Council's website: www.camparishcouncil.gov.uk

How can I get involved?

Parish Councillors are elected by the public and serve four-year terms in office. The role is voluntary, with support and training provided. If you have time to spare and would like to find out more, please speak to the Clerk, Jenny Walkley on 01453 548884 or email clerk@camparishcouncil.gov.uk