



Redruth Civic Centre, Alma Place, Redruth, Cornwall TR15 2AT

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**Town Mayor: Cllr M J Brown**

**Town Clerk: P B Bennett**

See Distribution

*Our Reference:*  
RTC/460/2/Mtg  
*Date:*  
4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear Councillor

**Extraordinary Meeting of the Finance Committee – 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

You are summoned to attend an Extraordinary Meeting of the Redruth Town Council Finance Committee to be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023, commencing at **6:30 p.m.** in the Langman Room, Redruth Civic Centre, Alma Place.

The Agenda and associated papers are enclosed for your reference and information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'R S Barnes'.

Cllr R S Barnes  
Chair, Finance Committee

Enclosures:

Agenda and associated documentation.

Distribution:

Action:

Cllr Barnes  
Cllr Biscoe  
Cllr Mrs Biscoe  
Cllr Brown  
Cllr Craze  
Cllr Ms Reeve  
Cllr Thomas  
Cllr Tremayne

Information:

All other Town Councillors  
Cornwall Councillors  
Press & Public

**Redruth Town Council**

**Extraordinary Meeting of Finance Committee**

**10<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**AGENDA**

**PART I – PUBLIC SESSION**

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. *To suspend Standing Orders to allow the public to speak.*
3. To allow the public to put questions to the Council on any item on this agenda.
4. *To reinstate Standing Orders.*
5. To discuss the proposed Council budget for financial year 2023-2024 and to make recommendations to Council in respect of said budget and the level of precept to be raised.  
[See report attached]

**REPORT FOR: Extraordinary Meeting of the Finance Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

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**1.0 SUBJECT OF REPORT: To discuss the proposed Council budget for financial year 2023-2024 and to make recommendations to Council in respect of said budget and the level of precept to be raised.**

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**2.0 SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

- |    |           |   |     |
|----|-----------|---|-----|
| a. | Policy    | - | No  |
| b. | Financial | - | Yes |
| c. | Legal     | - | Yes |

**3.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE**

3.1 To discuss the proposed Council budget for Financial Year 2023-2024 and to make recommendations to Council in respect of said budget and the level of precept to be raised.

**4.0 REPORT**

**4.1 Budget 2023-2024**

4.1.1 Attached for your information is a copy of the proposed budget for the Town Council for 2023-2024, having combined the recommendations made by the Town Council's Standing Committees, which have included several "new" budget headings including Podcast, Home Library Service, Major Items for the Civic centre (primarily a new boiler!); and some small budgets for miscellaneous admin activities.

4.1.2 Looking at the proposals attached you will see that we are looking at a year-on-year increase in expenditure of £63997 or 5.98%. Whilst we have endeavoured to keep costs down, our income for the coming year is also reduced from £44400 to £34296 or 22.76%. This is due to the decision to reduce the rentals in the Market Way Units by 25% whilst building works are carried out on the Buttermarket. This translates as an overall budget increase of £71226 or 6.93%.

4.1.3 Members will recall that the last two years increases were in the region of 17%. However, the last 12 months and those going forward are fairly significant in the history of the Town Council. We have relocated all our services under one roof, and though only just starting to utilise the facilities to the full potential we are all eager to establish our services in the town. We are hopefully nearing the end of the significant changes in the organisational make up and staffing structure which will ultimately see a much stronger and more engaging Town Council, but also something the community can be proud of. Unfortunately, these changes come at a cost. However, the Standing Committees have ensured that we have addressed the cost of living crisis where possible. Having fixed term contracts on the majority of our utilities; a long-term deal on our insurance policy; and also not having to put monies aside for the refurbishment of the public toilets this coming year has enabled our requirements to be reduced in other areas

4.1.3 Our proposed income year on year will show a reduction due to the agreed reduction in rental for the Market Way units whilst building works are carried out in the Buttermarket. However, this will not have a significant impact on the overall finances.

## 4.2 Level of Precept 2023-2024

4.2.1 Using this budget information against known income you will see that our precept (the amount required to fund our expenditure and therefore the amount to be collected through the Council Tax) has increased from £1027921 to £1099147, an increase of £71226 or 6.93%. If the Council Taxbase (i.e., the number of "D" Band equivalents) remained the same year on year this would mean an increase of £16.14 per year, or £0.31 per week per "D" Band equivalent. However, with the provisional Council Taxbase base figures for the parish for 2023-2024 just being released, the Redruth parish shows an increase of in our 'D' Band equivalents from 4411.74 to 4486.04 (based on the same 99.1% collection rate as last year) for the coming year, an increase in 74.3 or 1.68%. This rise in D Band properties combined with an increase in the precept year on year would actually mean that for a Precept requirement of £1099147 we would be looking at an increase in Council Tax of £12.02, or £0.23 per week for a "D" Band equivalent. This shows a year-on-year increase of 5.16%, and though these figures are misleading due to differing budgets at which increases are calculated, Cornwall Council insists on showing them within the Council Tax Bill sent out each year! The tax calculator attached shows the impact of this increase across the various bandings for properties.

## 4.3 Council Tax Support Grant

4.3.1 Since the introduction of the localised Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme in April 2013, a CTS grant has been paid to all qualifying local precepting authorities in addition to the precept.

4.3.2 As previously advised Cornwall Council proposed that FY 2022-2023 will be the last year of the CTS grant, as per their Budget and Medium-Term Financial Plan approved by them in February 2021. These proposals were communicated to us over the last two years within the precept notification information.

4.3.3 Over the last few years the amount given to us under the CTS grant was used to fund the important funding stream that is the Transition EMR which we use for impact on the devolved assets and services both current and future. Whilst the current Transition EMR is relatively sound (currently £67k), we will need to ensure that it does not become depleted to such an extent that it proves a burden on other budget headings.

## 4.5 Capping of local council precepts

4.6.1 We have spoken quite a lot in recent years about the potential capping regime which could be introduced on our tier at any given time. Despite much anticipation that this would be introduced in past years, it has not happened, although the Government has said it will keep it under review. This coming financial year is also unaffected as confirmed in a recently released Local Government finance policy statement 2023/24 to 2024/25 in which it has confirmed that no Council Tax referendum principles will be set for Town & Parish Councils.

4.6.2 We should, however, continue be mindful of the possible introduction of a capping regime for our tier. As a reminder, based on the criteria that was close to being introduced a number of years ago (a "D" Band higher than £75.46 and a precept in excess of £500,000) any capping regime would certainly affect us.

## 4.4 General

4.4.1 Members will be aware that we have had a number of years where we had to make significant increases in our precept due to the devolution programme, and the staffing and organisational restructuring needed to take this Council forward. However, all local Councils are being encouraged to keep rises for the forthcoming year to a minimum, and indeed make use of reserves if necessary to reduce the burden on the Council Taxpayer at a time of significant increases in other areas. I believe that following two years of significant increases (we were certainly the highest of the town councils in the county last year in percentage terms, and possibility the year before) this is all the more important to us as a local Council. I am also

aware from discussions with fellow Clerks from those larger Councils that where possible they too are aiming to ensure increases are kept to a minimum.

#### 4.5 Options

4.5.1 Whilst we could opt to leave the precept and therefore the proposed council tax increase as outlined above, there are a number of options we could consider. In anticipation of an underspend of some £55k within the Staff Costs budget this current year, due to vacancies and the reduction in NIC rates, we could afford to consider any of the following options, to meet the budget/precept requirement of £1099147:

- a. Use the Staff Costs underspend to reduce the Council Tax requirement to under the 5% level as applied as a cap for principal authorities (i.e. 4.99%)
- b. Use the Staff Costs underspend to reduce the Council Tax requirement so that the year on year increase to the Council Tax payer is zero%
- c. Use the Staff Costs underspend to reduce the Council Tax requirement so that the year on year increase to the Council Tax payer is somewhere between the 5% and 0% level

#### 5.0 **CONCLUSION**

5.1 It is concluded that Members consider the Council budget and precept requirement proposed within this report and the details at Annex A.

#### 6.0 **RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 Members are requested to consider the attached budget, make amendments as necessary and make a recommendation to Council in respect of the Council budget for Financial Year 2023-2024 and the level of precept to be raised to fund said budget.

P B Bennett  
Town Clerk & RFO

Annex:

- A. Redruth Town Council Proposed Budget for Financial Year 2023-2024.
- B. Redruth Town Council Tax Calculator.

**Redruth Town Council**  
**Proposed Budget for FY 2023-2024**

				Budget 2022-23	<b>Budget 2023-24</b>
101	Administra	4101	Wages/Salaries	376628	<b>439667</b>
		4102	Tax/NIC	111349	<b>138365</b>
		4104	Pensions	114896	<b>135320</b>
				602873	<b>713353</b>
102	General Ac	4201	Stationery	1200	<b>1400</b>
		4202	Telephone/Internet	1200	<b>1350</b>
		4203	Mobile Phones	2880	<b>3400</b>
		4204	Annual Subscriptions	9185	<b>10100</b>
		4205	Photocopier Contract	1250	<b>1375</b>
		4206	Postage	550	<b>150</b>
		4207	Advertising	1000	<b>1000</b>
		4208	Audit	3250	<b>3400</b>
		4210	Mayor's Budget	2000	<b>2000</b>
		4212	Development Resources	1000	<b>1000</b>
		4213	Tablets	3065	<b>3065</b>
		4214	Newspapers	500	<b>500</b>
		4215	Refreshments	400	<b>400</b>
		4216	Volunteer Support Fund	500	<b>500</b>
		4217	Lib Events & Activities	750	<b>750</b>
		4220	Miscellaneous Expenses	200	<b>200</b>
		4221	Loan Repayment	16958	<b>16670</b>
		4222	IT Support	10850	<b>12200</b>

		4223	HR Outsourcing	7500	<b>7500</b>
		4224	TIC Bulk Buy	1000	<b>1000</b>
				65238	<b>67960</b>
201	Christmas	4220	Miscellaneous Expenses	0	<b>0</b>
		4304	Christmas Lights	22500	<b>20290</b>
		4305	Christmas Events	6000	<b>5000</b>
				28500	<b>25290</b>
202	Other Ever	4311	Markets Support	1000	<b>500</b>
		4312	Summer Events	2500	<b>2500</b>
		4313	May Day	1500	<b>0</b>
		4314	Lowender Perran	500	<b>500</b>
		NEW	Coronation	0	<b>5000</b>
		NEW	Seasonal Events	0	<b>2000</b>
				5500	<b>10500</b>
203	Administra	4207	Advertising	1000	<b>1750</b>
		4701	Elections	5000	<b>0</b>
		4703	Office Equipment	1500	<b>2000</b>
		4706	Council Website	6300	<b>1500</b>
		4708	Training	5000	<b>5000</b>
		4709	Donations	7500	<b>8000</b>
		4710	Christmas Goodwill	500	<b>0</b>
		4711	Youth Council	1000	<b>1000</b>
		4715	Town Website	1400	<b>1400</b>
		4716	Remembrance	2500	<b>1000</b>
		4718	Town Guide	6200	<b>6500</b>
		4719	C4L	2500	<b>2500</b>
		4720	Plastic Champion	1000	<b>500</b>

		New	Podcast	0	<b>1500</b>
		New	Home Lib Service	0	<b>500</b>
				41400	<b>33150</b>
204	RIM&PF	4401	Marshals	370	<b>370</b>
		4402	Music Acts	3000	<b>3000</b>
		4404	Marketing/Advertising	2500	<b>1500</b>
		4405	Equip/Toilets/Tables/Chairs	1300	<b>1300</b>
		4407	First Aid	450	<b>250</b>
		4408	Bunting	275	<b>275</b>
		4410	Marquees	850	<b>850</b>
		4413	Road Closures/Licenses	100	<b>100</b>
		4414	Hospitatlity	250	<b>250</b>
		4416	Fun Day	400	<b>600</b>
		4419	Generators	1900	<b>1900</b>
		4421	Electricity	300	<b>300</b>
		4422	Miners Day Activities	100	<b>1200</b>
				11795	<b>11895</b>
205	Murdoch	4401	Marshals	1000	<b>1000</b>
		4402	Music Acts	1200	<b>1200</b>
		4403	Street Ents	1000	<b>1000</b>
		4404	Marketing/Advertising	1000	<b>1000</b>
		4405	Equip/Toilets/Tables/Chairs	400	<b>400</b>
		4407	First Aid	460	<b>460</b>
		4408	Bunting	275	<b>275</b>
		4410	Marquees	1150	<b>1150</b>
		4411	Stage	900	<b>900</b>
		4412	Market Stalls	1250	<b>1250</b>



		4413	Road Closures/Licenses	420	<b>420</b>
		4415	Misc Expenses	300	<b>300</b>
		4418	Afternoon Dance	200	<b>200</b>
		4427	Schools	1650	<b>1650</b>
				11205	<b>11205</b>
206	St Piran Fe	4401	Marshals	350	<b>350</b>
		4402	Music Acts	3000	<b>3000</b>
		4405	Equip/Toilets/Tables/Chairs	325	<b>325</b>
		4406	Printing Programmes	500	<b>500</b>
		4408	Bunting	275	<b>275</b>
		4413	Road Closures/Licenses	75	<b>75</b>
		4430	Transport	350	<b>350</b>
				4875	<b>4875</b>
210	Other Serv	4514	CCTV Monitoring	9000	<b>9900</b>
		4515	CCTV R&M	5000	<b>5500</b>
		4516	CCTV Capital	3500	<b>0</b>
				17500	<b>15400</b>
			GP Committee Total	783386	<b>893628</b>
208	Amenities	4601	Non-domestic Business Rate	2400	<b>2000</b>
		4603	Water	500	<b>500</b>
		4604	Electricity	500	<b>500</b>
				3400	<b>3000</b>

210	Other Serv	4501	Purchases & Works	7000	<b>7500</b>
		4506	Signs	5000	<b>0</b>
		4507	Town Clock Maintenance	3500	<b>1750</b>
		4520	Weed Control	5000	<b>5750</b>
		4521	Vehicle Fuel	2000	<b>2400</b>
		4522	Machinery Fuel	600	<b>500</b>
		4523	Floral Displays	15000	<b>16000</b>
		4524	GWaT Maintenance	4000	<b>4000</b>
		4525	PPE	1500	<b>0</b>
			43600	<b>37900</b>	
301	The Chaml	4209	Insurance	6500	<b>7300</b>
		4601	Non-domestic Business Rate	3000	<b>0</b>
		4602	Gas	200	<b>250</b>
		4603	Water	100	<b>125</b>
		4604	Electricity	100	<b>750</b>
		4605	Waste	0	<b>0</b>
		4606	Lifts	420	<b>460</b>
		4610	Building Maintenance	2000	<b>4000</b>
		4611	Air Conditioning	850	<b>935</b>
		4615	Hygene Contracts	0	<b>0</b>
4616	Security Systems	100	<b>100</b>		
			13270	<b>13920</b>	
302	Market Wa	4209	Insurance	4000	<b>4700</b>
		4220	Miscellaneous Expenses	2500	<b>0</b>
		4601	Non-domestic Business Rate	32960	<b>32960</b>
		4602	Gas	3200	<b>3200</b>

		4603	Water	3100	<b>3200</b>
		4604	Electricity	10000	<b>16000</b>
		4605	Waste	4000	<b>4600</b>
		4606	Lifts	420	<b>460</b>
		4607	Cleaning	13600	<b>15000</b>
		4610	Building Maintenance	7000	<b>4000</b>
		4611	Air Conditioning	1000	<b>1000</b>
		4615	Hygiene Contracts	2000	<b>2000</b>
		4616	Security Systems	1500	<b>1650</b>
		NEW	Security MW	0	<b>5000</b>
		NEW	Security Mtgs	0	<b>2330</b>
		NEW	Major Items	0	<b>5000</b>
				85280	<b>101100</b>
304	Public Toilets	4601	Non-domestic Business Rate	0	<b>0</b>
		4603	Water	2500	<b>2500</b>
		4604	Electricity	1000	<b>1000</b>
		4607	Cleaning	10700	<b>25200</b>
		4610	Building Maintenance	2000	<b>2000</b>
		4615	Hygiene Contracts	375	<b>420</b>
		4526	Toilets Refurb	60000	<b>0</b>
				76575	<b>31120</b>
305	St Rumons	4603	Water	50	<b>95</b>
		4604	Electricity	600	<b>600</b>
		4605	Waste	875	<b>920</b>
		4610	Building Maintenance	1000	<b>1000</b>
				2525	<b>2615</b>

306	EEPF	4511	Grounds Maintenance	2800	<b>3400</b>
		4512	Play Equipment Inspections	250	<b>275</b>
		4513	Play Equipment Maintenance	8000	<b>5000</b>
		4605	Waste	985	<b>1050</b>
			Sk8 Park Maint	2000	<b>2000</b>
				14035	<b>11725</b>
307	Plain-an-G	4512	Play Equipment Inspections	250	<b>275</b>
		4513	Play Equipment Maintenance	6500	<b>2500</b>
		4605	Waste	625	<b>660</b>
				7375	<b>3435</b>
320	Capital Exp	4503	Climate Change	3500	<b>0</b>
		4905	Grounds Equip	2000	<b>2000</b>
		4504	Bus Shelters	2000	<b>0</b>
		4508	Compound Rent	2000	<b>2000</b>
		4510	Vehicles	20500	<b>21000</b>
		4936	Community Centre	4000	<b>4000</b>
		4528	Library Furniture	1000	<b>1000</b>
				35000	<b>30000</b>
				281060	<b>234815</b>
401	Planning		NDP	5000	<b>5000</b>
				5000	<b>5000</b>

EXPENDITURE TOTAL	1069446	<b>1133443</b>
INCOME		
1075 Income-Floral Displays	3500	3500
1080 Footpaths	1700	1906
1001 Income-Rent-KCU	3000	3000
1002 Income - Retail Units	29000	18690
1001 Income - Rent - CRCC Tx from GF/EMRs	7200	7200
	44400	<b>34296</b>
TOTALS	1027921	1099147
	1027921 <b>PRECEPT</b>	<b>1099147</b>
	233.00 <b>D BAND</b>	<b>245.01</b>
	199.23 <b>ious Year</b>	<b>233.00</b>
	33.77 <b>+/- p.a.</b>	<b>12.01</b>
	0.65 <b>+/- p.w.</b>	<b>0.23</b>

