

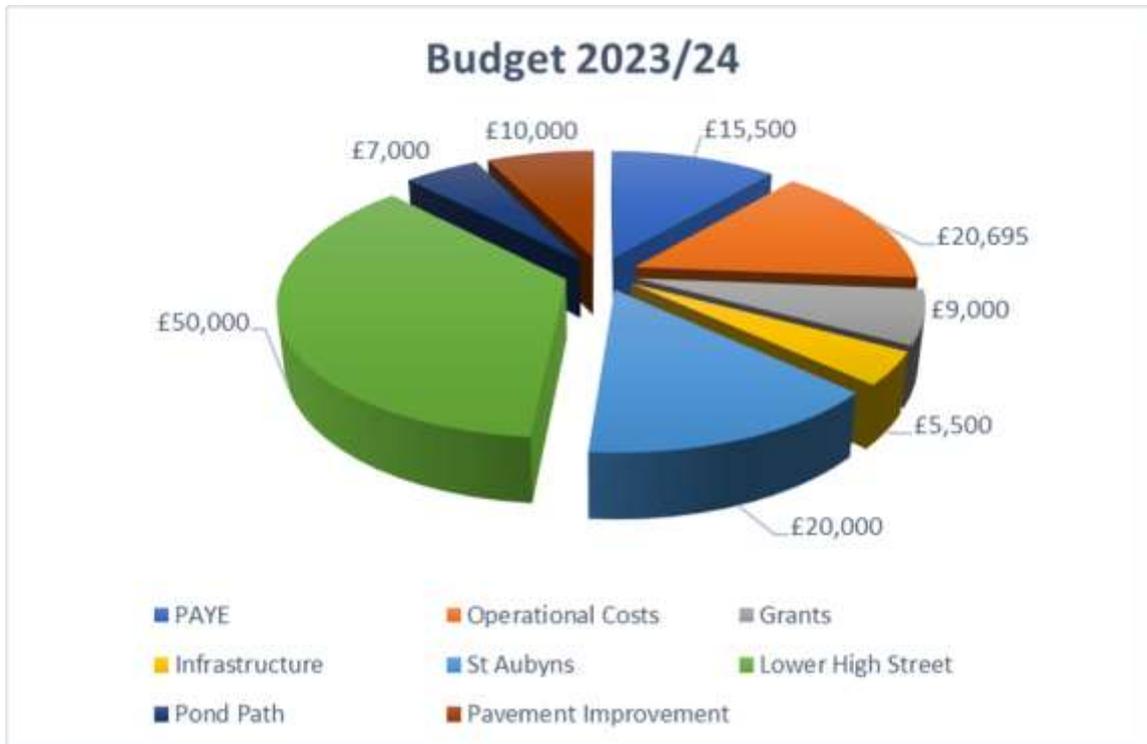


PRESS RELEASE: BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2023/24.

Every year, the Parish Council has to set a budget to cover the cost of its work and administration. The budget is funded by the precept — the local tax included in your Council Tax — which is collected from parishioners by Brighton and Hove City Council.

The 2023/24 Budget.

The overall budget for 2023/24 will be £138,695 compared to the £187,149 provided for 2022/23. The detail is set out at Annex A with an illustration of key areas of the proposed budget allocation shown below. The most important decision made is that the precept payment made by residents will not change. For the Band D ratepayer the precept payable will therefore remain at £32.66 a year. The Parish Council will still continue to improve services and amenities and further develop and implement plans for a new public open space at the southern end of the High Street, progress the other projects set out in our [Infrastructure Development Plan](#) and support local charities and good causes through grants and donations.



Background

The following provides the main assumptions that underpin the proposed budget for 2023/24.

1. Operational Costs. Current operations costs should remain largely the same during 2023/24. The Parish could, however, start to incur additional operational costs for St Aubyns of an

estimated £8500 depending on the date of transition. **This is included as a contingency in the event that the transfer occurs within the 2023/24 year. This will be funded from the one-off lump sum for maintenance provided by the developer.** The operational budget has therefore been increased from **£27,399 to £36,195.**

2. Grants and Donations. Given the number of applications received in 2022/23, the financial outlook and the King's coronation, the budget has been increased from **£7500 to £9000**
3. Infrastructure. This budget was hardly called on during 2022/23. However, the Council have allocated £5500 to cover improvements to accessibility, traffic signage and general improvements to the infrastructure. The budget will **decrease from £8500 to £5500.**
4. Major Projects. A projects budget of **£88,000** has been allocated for 2023/24. This will allow for initial investment in St Aubyns Field and associated buildings to bring them into community use, phase one of the lower high street project, pavement improvements and a new path at the eastern side the pond to improve accessibility. The detail for 2023/24 and for longer term project expenditure is shown at Annex A. Further details can be found in the [Infrastructure Development Plan](#) and on the [Financial Reports](#) page on the Parish Council Website.

Setting The Precept

5. The Parish Council voted for a precept that would cover the budget and create a small surplus. The basis for this decision was as follows.

Available Funds	Expenditure Plans		Minimum Precept Requirement
Bank Balance 31/03/23 (Est)	£90,000	PAYE	£15,500
Bank Interest	£2,150	Operational Costs	£20,695
		Grants	£9,000
		Infrastructure	£5,500
		St Aubyns	£20,000
		Lower High Street	£50,000
		Pond Path	£7,000
		Pavement Repair	£10,000
Total	£92,150		£138,695
			£46,545

6. As there will be more households in the parish paying the precept in 2023/24, the overall precept income, without any change, will be £56,700. This will provide sufficient funding for the planned expenditure and provide a small reserve of around £10,000 as a contingency or alternatively as a contribution to the major projects planned for 2024/25. The Parish Council therefore voted not to increase the precept paid by each household.

If you have any comments or questions about the budget or precept please contact the Parish Clerk - email chris.hayes@rottingdean-pc.gov.uk.



Table A. Budget 2023/24

Annex A

Bank Balance c/f	£90,000
Estimated Income	
Bank interest NatWest	£150
Bank interest C&C	£2,000
Bank Interest Unity Trust	£0
Precept and CTR	£56,700
Total Income	£148,850
Planned Expenditure	
<u>Operational costs</u>	
Clerks salary + PAYE	£15,500
Clerk Expenses	£50
Payroll admin	£500
Printing & Stationery	£450
Insurance	£2,600*
Meeting room hire	£1,200
Subscriptions	£90
Postage & comms	£250
Audit fees	£525
Website (DD)	£530
Newsletter/Publicity	£650
Beacon Hill Leaflets and Annual Reports	£550
St Aubyns Maintenance	£6,500
Pond Maintenance	£1,800
General expenses/Contingency	£5,000
Sub Total	£36,195
Grants & Donations	
Grants & Donations	£9,000
<u>Sub Total</u>	£9,000
Infrastructure	
Signage improvements	£1,000
General Improvements to Infrastructure	£1,000
Access improvements	£1,000
Well being	£1,500
Road safety	£1,000
Sub Total	£5,500
Major Projects	
St Aubyns (Capital Expenditure)	£20,000
Lower High Street	£50,000
Traffic volumes & air pollution	£0
Neighbourhood Plan	£1,000
Park Road Toilets Refurb and Rebuild	£0
<u>Pavement Improvement</u>	£10,000
Pond Path	£7,000
Sub Total	£88,000
TOTAL	£138,695

*Contingency in case of early transfer. Any St Aubyns maintenance costs will be met from the developer maintenance payment

Table B Long Tern Project Expenditure Plans

IDP Projects - indicative figures	23/24	24/25	25/26	Total over planning period
St Aubyns	£20,000	£30,000	£0	£50,000
Lower High Street	£50,000	£150,000	£150,000	£350,000
Neighbourhood Plan	£1,000			£1,000
Pavement Improvement	£10,000	£5,000	£0	£10,000
Pond Path	£7,000			£7,000
Sub Total	£88,000	£185,000	£150,000	£408,000