



# COGGESHALL PARISH COUNCIL

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## Precept 2020-2021

For the second time since the financial year ending 31 March 2015 Coggeshall Parish Council ('the Council') has found it necessary to increase the Precept for the next financial year ending 31 March 2021.

The increase will be reflected in the Council Tax demands issued by Braintree District Council as at 1 April 2020.

The Precept change of 3.42 % will increase the income for the Council from £161,923 to £168,399. The implication for Coggeshall residents is illustrated by the standard reference to a Band D equivalent property where the increased cost in the annual Council Tax bill will be £3.09 or 6 pence per week.

The following factors have contributed to the need for the increase: -

- During the five-year period where the precept remained unchanged the costs of the core services provided by the Council have continued to rise.
- In the same five-year period, the Council has been drawing on reserves to enable it to support the cost of core services and undertake projects over and above the core costs.
- At the end of the financial year 31 March 2020 the Council's General Reserves are projected to be at a level which is regarded as the minimum to provide an adequate contingency to cover its annual Administration costs. The Council has a legal obligation to hold an adequate General Reserve.

As a reminder the Council provides and maintains the following services / facilities for the benefit of residents: -

- Car park
- Public toilets
- The Village Hall and building for the museum
- 53 street lights
- 105 allotments
- Cemetery
- 3 recreation grounds with play equipment
- 51 benches around the parish
- Owen Martin nature reserve
- Brian Tebbit and millennium gardens
- Clock Tower
- Supports the development of the Neighbourhood Plan

For the future the Council is working on the Big Park project to improve the East Street recreation ground facilities, and is also having to provide for additional cemetery space at a total estimated cost of £25,000.

If you wish to discuss this or assist the Council please do not hesitate to speak to a Councillor or the Parish Clerk who is available at the Parish Offices from 9am to 12 mid-day on week days excluding Monday and Wednesday.