East Woodhay
Parish Council

Within every household council tax you will see there is an element for the local East Woodhay Parish Council (EWPC), which is called precept.

To help keep this precept as low as possible the councillors, who are all volunteers, also seek out grants to help fund projects. Such recent projects have included the elm trees and hedging in the parish field and a significant part of the replacement for the boardwalk off Trade Street. Grants also help us fund our litter warden, Patricia Barnes and a portion of grass cutting in the recreation grounds.

Community Infrastructure Funds, which are a stipulated contribution following specific house building within the parish, are also used to fund projects. We are always looking for people to help manage projects and please contact Amy, our clerk, if you are interested in finding out more (clerk@eastwoodhay-pc.gov.uk).

This financial diligence helps keeps the East Woodhay parish council precept at a minimum which is rising next year by just an annual amount of £3.23 (i.e. comparable to a bought coffee) from £32.11 to £35.34 for a Band D household.

This money pays for our Clerk, administration (e.g. insurance and legal fees), trees / hedges and ground maintenance on our land plus local facilities including:

- Heath End recreation ground (including tennis court)
- Woolton Hill recreation ground (including CCTV and tennis court)
- Woolton Hill playground
- Woolton Hill parish field path
- Meadowbrook community area
- Speed indicator
- Planning consultation fees
- War memorials at East End and Woolton Hill

For comparison, despite having these facilities, East Woodhay precept is lower per household, than neighbouring councils in Hampshire:

Parish - Band D precept comparisons (25/26)

East Woodhay	£32.11
Highclere	£33.61
Hannington	£36.92
Burghclere	£38.00
Ecchinswell	£46.11
Ashmansworth	£47.79
Upton Grey	£62.96
St Mary Bourne	£74.98
Kingsclere	£76.55
Whitchurch	£85.74

One of our significant challenges is that as the facilities age, the cost of maintenance naturally rise, with both people and material price increases.
Our maintenance companies continue to do a great job in keeping our recreation grounds to a high a high and safe standard. This enables the continued high usage of our recreation grounds and equipment by so many of our community. This is such a positive thing to see.

For further information on how the precept forms part of your overall council tax bill, see here:

www.basingstoke.gov.uk/council-tax-charges