

An aerial photograph of a residential neighborhood featuring numerous brick houses with grey tiled roofs. The houses are arranged in a dense, slightly hilly pattern. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Setting the Budget and Precept for Huntley Parish Council 2026/27

(Update March 2026)



Agenda: What We Will Cover

- What the parish council does with your money
- How we put together our budget
- How we figure out the precept (the bit of council tax for us)
- How we are transparent



REPRESENTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Representing the local
community



DELIVERING LOCAL SERVICES

Parks, hails, bus shelters,
allotments



IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE



GIVING THE COMMUNITY A VOICE (planning)



MANAGING BUDGETS (precept)

What Is The Parish Council For ?

Speaking up for the community - We make sure your views are heard in local decisions such as planning matters

We spend money on a wide range of services and facilities that directly benefit the local communities, making the parish a cleaner, safer and better place to live

We manage the council's money to get the best for everyone

What Does the Parish Council Spend Money On ?

- Allotments
- Bus shelters
- Footpaths and public rights of way
- Highways (speed camera and enforcement)
- Tree planting and maintenance, hedge cutting and grass cutting
- Dog waste bins
- Recreation ground, playground and football pitch
- War memorial and The Stocks
- General spending on anything deemed beneficial to the community (within legal limits) using Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972

ALLOTMENTS
(GARDEN PLOTS)



HIGHWAYS



BUS SHELTERS



PLAYGROUNDS

RECREATION
GROUNDS



LITTER BINS AND
ANTI-LITTER
CAMPAIGNS



WAR MEMORIALS



SPORTS FIELDS



PLANNING
CONSULTATIONS



COMMUNITY
BENEFIT

How We Set The Budget



125,058	154,568	95,054	124,500
125,487	56,845	97,511	125,000
124,000	110,000	99,011	154,000
150	150,000	99,216	95,000
35,000	35,000	101,090	154,200
		101,684	110,000
		101,962	89,000
			50,000
			10,700



Drafting and Getting Feedback

What do people need now ?

We look at what services are required and what projects matter the most right now

Draft Budget Preparation

We put together a first version of the budget based on this year's spending. This includes looking at ways to cut costs, where we might need more money and looking ahead to see what might be coming

Community Consultation

We share it with the community and listen to your thoughts (Dec 25)

Feedback and Adjustments

We make changes based on what you tell us

Draft Budget - Admin

Item	Spend to Date 25/26 £	Predicted End 25/26 £	Proposed 26/27 £
Audit	502	502	500
Subscriptions	536	536	485
Insurance	666	666	700
Speed Camera	421	421	450
Election	0	0	1000
CCTV	75	75	80
Web Site	407	407	250
Allotment Maintenance	306	306	250
Room Hire	350	350	300
Miscellaneous	584	584	180
Total		£3847	£4195

Draft Budget – Services and Assets

Item	Spend to Date £	Predicted 25/26 £	Proposed 26/27 £
Bus Shelters	1346	1346	1785
Dog Fouling	1254	1300	1300
Grass Cutting	7830	7830	7300
Hedge Cutting	1020	1020	1100
Play Area Donation	1535	1535	1000
Tree Survey and Work	3688	3688	2000
NDP	0	0	750
War Memorial and Stocks	6915	6915	2000
Miscellaneous	90	90	350
Staff	10378	10378	10618
Snow Plough	0	0	500
Total		£34101	£28703

How we set the Precept

Planning what we will need to spend

Look at all the things we will need to pay for in the coming year – the budget

Other Income

We factor in any money coming in. This helps reduce how much we need to ask for

Setting a Fair Precept Amount

Determine a precept that covers our costs whilst minimising tax impact on residents.



Income

Source	Income to date	Predicted 25/26	Expected 26/27
Allotment Rent	450	450	885
Bank Interest	110	115	100
Football Pitch hire	45	80	150
Two Rivers	240	240	240
Grants	2750	2750	0
Bank Balance		15000	15000
Precept		25196	25196
Total		£43831	£41571

2026/27 Income minus expenditure = balance of £8673

General reserves required are 6 months operating costs = £16,449. Council has resolved to hold reserves of £15,000 to reduce the increase on residents

Therefore, the precept will need to be raised by £7000 for 2026/2027

Steps in Calculating the Precept Amount

- The precept is divided by the number of households in the parish eligible to pay Council Tax. This calculation provides a figure on a Band D basis, the averaging banding of property size.
- Larger houses are given a banding further down the scale and so have a higher precept contribution. Equally, a smaller home is given a banding further up the scale, which results in a smaller bill.



Steps in Calculating the Precept Amount

- Huntley Parish Council set the precept for the financial year 2026/2027 at £32,196, an increase of £7000. This was agreed at the parish council meeting in January 2026.
- The Council has 456 eligible households
- This means that a Band D property will pay £70.55 to Huntley Parish Council for the financial year 2026/2027. This equates to £5.88 per month, an increase of £1.15 per month for a Band D household compared to this financial year 2025/2026.



Transparency and Public Engagement

Legislation Compliance – We must adhere to laws governing financial management. We can only use money for things we are allowed to

Keeping the Books Straight - Clear and accurate financial reporting help protect public money

Audit make sure everything is being done properly and that public resources are used in the right way

Resident Involvement – involving residents in budget decisions

Regular Communications – Financial information is shared at each council meeting



Planning, Income, Calculation, Community Impact

Budget and Precept Importance

Effective budget and precept setting ensures Huntley Parish Council can deliver vital services for all residents responsibly and transparently.

Accountability and Compliance

Adhering to compliance ensures financial accountability

Public Engagement Benefits

Engaging the residents helps tailor services to community priorities.

Your council tax contribution helps shape our community's future

Thank you for listening. Are there any questions or comments on the proposed budget?