

# Haxey Parish Council, Newsletter, December 2014

Parish Clerk - Deb Hotson

Email: [haxeypc@live.co.uk](mailto:haxeypc@live.co.uk)

Postal Address: The Foreman Carter Centre, Westwoodside Playing Field, Westwoodside, DN9 2DX

Telephone: 01652 618306 / 0784 220 1877

Website: [www.haxeyparish.org.uk](http://www.haxeyparish.org.uk)

## **Haxey Parish Council Precept - 2015/16**

Residents will be aware of the recent National discussions over the devolving of the Grant for Town and Parish Councils from Principal Authorities and the furore that has ensued from local Councils and communities when the Government grant has not been passed down. In the last 2 years, North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) has passed down the grant in full, provided the Town or Parish Council maintained its precept at the previous year's level. Policy Advice from the Leader of NLC on devolving the Government Grant for the 2015/16 financial year has recently been received by the Parish Council as follows:

## **Grant Support for Council Tax – 2015/16**

“This year we propose once again to pass on the financial support given to us by the Government. I know that many councils have chosen not to do this; however, I consider that supporting our parish councils is very much an important part of our political administration.

The scheme we wish to implement will mean that most parishes receiving grant last year can receive the same amount again this year, while those that increased their precept and received no grant last year will now be eligible for support.

For 2015/16, if a parish freezes or increases its precept it will receive support as if it had kept its precept the same as last year.

If a parish reduces its precept, it will receive a proportionately reduced amount.

We all know that residents, particularly those on fixed incomes have really benefited from the freeze in Council Tax and we at North Lincolnshire council with support from the Government, intend to freeze council tax for the fourth year. It is important that we continue to support our residents in these times of austerity and I know that you will be considering this when setting your precept.

The proposal is of course subject to agreement at our council meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December.”

In the interest of providing more detail and clarity to Residents, the following is how the precept grant is calculated:

The Parish precept is based on the Band D Council Tax for Haxey which for the current financial year is **20.43**. This figure is arrived at as follows: Each property subject to Council Tax is assigned to one of eight valuation bands A to H based on the property's assumed value in 1991. Each band is charged council tax at a different rate with Band D being the benchmark. Bands A to C pay less than a Band D and Bands E to H pay more than Band D. The numbers of properties in each Band are converted to Band D equivalents and this total becomes the tax base for the area – for Haxey it is 1578.9. The precept divided by the tax base gives the Band D council tax. Therefore in Haxey's case the Council Tax yield - £32,257 divided by tax base, 1578.9 equals the Band D figure of **20.43**. The grant from NLC for the current year was £2778 which when added to the Council Tax yield gives a figure of £35035, which is the current Parish precept for 2014/15. For the coming financial year, we now know (subject to the Principal Authority's meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> December) the grant received from NLC for the precept will again be £2778.

Residents are reminded that the Parish Council has maintained the same precept for the last 5 years. The Parish Council Finance Committee will meet in December to consider the accounts, set the budget for 2015/16 and make a recommendation to the Full Council for the precept for 2015/16 at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

The Chairman, Councillors and Clerk to Haxey Parish Council wish all residents a  
Very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year