



Supporting Our Community

PRESS RELEASE

GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL – COUNCIL TAX ANNOUNCEMENT

Despite the Retail Price Index reaching 3.3% in October 2018, at its recent meeting Members of the Godalming Town Council's Policy & Management Committee unanimously agreed to recommend that, due to strong financial management and in order to continue to provide and improve its services to residents, the Council would only need to increase its share of the Council Tax bill for 2019/20 by 1.98%, which equates to an increase of just over 2.6 pence per week for a Band D property.

Godalming Town Council provides a range of services to the town's residents including its flagship town centre venue the Wilfrid Noyce Centre, Broadwater Park Community Centre in Farncombe and the town's iconic Pepperpot. It also funds the Godalming Museum, public toilets in Godalming and Farncombe, two cemeteries, sixteen acres of allotment sites, Floral Godalming flower displays in the town centre, Christmas Lights in Farncombe and Godalming retail centres and a range of festivals and markets. The Council also runs the Staycation holiday programme, the town's fireworks display and annual Remembrance Parade and assists in the management of the monthly Farmers' Markets. As well as supporting the Godalming Dementia Action Alliance, the Town Council also supports many events run by community organisations such as the St John's Spring Fair, Sport Godalming's Community Run, the Round Table's Town Show, Staycation Live Music Festival and Churches Together's Town Day, all of which help make Godalming such a vibrant community.

The Town Council also makes many grants to the town's voluntary organisations – which for 2019/20 will be increased to £60,000, a sum significantly larger than many other areas in Waverley. For many organisations, such as the Citizen's Advice Waverley and the Waverley Hoppa Community Transport service, support from Godalming Town Council is a vital lifeline for them to be able to continue to provide invaluable services to local residents.

Speaking recently, Councillor Stefan Reynolds Chairman of the Town Council's Policy & Management Committee said, "I am delighted that the Town Council continues its recent history of investment in our town. We have plans to refurbish the Godalming public toilets and The Pepperpot meeting room in January, along with improvement works to the Godalming Museum and our facilities at Broadwater Park Community Centre during the early part of 2019. This demonstrates that Godalming Town Council is meeting its aim of 'Supporting Our Community' by providing the best service possible within the available resources and fulfilling its statutory duties and obligations, whilst also maintaining, improving and enhancing its service provision to the community".

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