



Benson Parish Council

2026/27

Benson Parish Council has requested a precept of £367,389 in order to maintain the services and facilities it provides for the Parish. This represents an increase of £7.42 per year for a band D property.

The full budget breakdown and precept calculation is as follows

BUDGET SUMMARY

EXPENDITURE

	25-26 Budgeted	26-27 Budgeted
Admin (including staff and office costs, insurance, vehicles, equipment)	267708	297324
Grants to external organisations	12000	20000
Halls (Parish Hall, Pavilion and Community Hall)	94110	92600
Recreation & Lands (play areas, nature areas, village centre, public toilets, recreation grounds, paddling pool, allotments)	40950	46965
Contingencies (tree damage, vat reclaim and general contingency)	17750	17750
Capital Projects (funds added to existing project budgets)	39833	53233
Total	472351	527872

INCOME

Admin (photocopying, refreshments, equipment hire, bank interest)	10900	20650
Halls	74000	76000
Recreation & Lands	5470	5470
Total	90370	102120

Precept Raised	348556	425752
Subsidy from General Reserves and commuted sums	36425	58363
Precept per Band D Household / annum	153.03	160.45
Precept per Band D Household/ week	2.94	3.08

In 2025/26 we promised to deliver the following capital projects;

- Painting the Parish Hall main hall - complete
- EV chargers – ‘parked’ due to the huge cost of connecting them to the electric supply
- More planters and cycle racks around the village – ongoing but many planters replaced
- Bins, benches and fencing at the skate park – complete
- Refurbishment of Rivermead including the paddling pool – A CIL project that is progressing slowly
- A public consultation on the future of Green Close play area – due in 2026
- Redevelopment of the Cuckoo Pen nursery into a community space – due to start 2026
- Village events such as the Remembrance Parade, VE Day celebration and village Christmas decorations - complete
- Parish Hall solar panels feasibility study - underway
- Redevelopment of the Pavilion into a Youth Hub – progressing slowly
- Refurbishment of the bus stops on the A4074 (currently part of an OCC initiative) – waits for OCC

In 2026/27 we will continue with the larger capital projects above and have added the following new ones;

- Replace uneven paving around Millstream Toilet
- Replace the Parish Hall kitchen rinser with a commercial dishwasher
- Resurface the Parish Hall main hall wooden floor
- Replace broken picnic benches in the play parks
- Refurbish the village noticeboards
- Purchase an anpr camera and training for our speedwatch group
- Increase the grants budget to support local charities and good causes
- Take over responsibility for the green spaces, play parks and allotments in the new developments
- Clear and restore the pond by the Millbrook Mead walkway

Benson Parish Council will continue to;

- Apply the Benson Neighbourhood Plan rigorously to new planning applications and development proposals, defending the parish against speculative developments.
- Maintain the public assets such as the playgrounds, nature areas, buildings and allotments
- Represent Benson in liaison with the principal authorities on wider Oxfordshire and UK issues
- Accommodate the needs of the growing Benson population by upgrading infrastructure and providing new facilities

Benson Parish Council is committed to continuing to deliver the projects, functions and services that residents and visitors to the village expect, at a price that the residents are prepared to pay, and we thank everyone for their ongoing support and input in that work.

Your Parish Council would like to hear your views and any comments you may have on the services that are provided or what you would like to see provided in the future

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