

Council Tax Information Statement 2026/27

(For publication under the Local Government Finance Act 1992

(Demand Notices) (England) Regulations 2011)

Authority: Harwell Parish Council

Financial Year: 2026/27

Tax Base (Band D equivalents): 1,379

Precept: £142,304

Purpose of this Statement

This statement is provided to Vale of White Horse District Council in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (Demand Notices) (England) Regulations 2011, which require billing authorities to publish information about parish and town council spending where the parish precept exceeds the statutory threshold (£140,000).

Harwell Parish Council has approved its budget and precept through a formal Council resolution in public session at its full council meeting on 14 January 2026.

Summary of Budget 2026/27

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Total Expenditure	£185,368
Total Income (excluding precept)	£43,064
Parish Precept	£142,304

Figures are derived from the Council's approved 2026/27 budget.

What the Precept Funds

The parish precept funds the Council's core local services, including:

- maintenance of recreation grounds, play areas, and open spaces
- cemetery and allotment management
- community grants and local initiatives
- environmental and biodiversity projects
- governance, staffing, and day-to-day service delivery

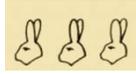
Larger capital projects are primarily funded through Section 106, CIL, grants, or earmarked reserves where available.

Band D Impact

For 2026/27 the Band D parish charge will be:

£103.19 per year

(£93.88 in 2025/26)



HARWELL PARISH COUNCIL

This represents an increase of approximately **£0.78 per month** for a Band D household.

Key Budget Drivers

The approved precept increase is primarily attributable to:

- provision for a **0.5 FTE grounds maintenance apprenticeship**, supporting organisational resilience and succession planning
- allowance for the anticipated national pay award
- continued delivery of the Council's Forward Plan priorities

Core service costs remain broadly stable.

Reserves Position

As at the budget setting process, the Council maintains earmarked reserves aligned to specific projects and an operating reserve equivalent to approximately six months of core expenditure, consistent with the Council's reserves policy.

Further Information

The full detailed budget report and Forward Plan are published on the Harwell Parish Council website: <https://www.harwellparish.gov.uk>. You may also contact the Clerk & RFO at clerk@harwellparish.gov.uk.