



Callington Town Council



COUNCIL FINANCES

The Budget (please see documents below) has been accepted by the Town Council. The Precept for 2017/2018 is £340,955. This is an increase of £13,021 on 2016/2017, a percentage increase of 1.96%. The rise for a Band D property is £3.57 per year (7p a week). The Town Council Band D payment will be £185.59 or £3.57 a week.

In 2017/2018 Callington Town Council has taken the decision to retain many of the prices from other sources of income, mainly from grants, service level agreements for providing grass cutting and Town Hall lettings (small rise). However, they will be reviewed during the year, to ensure they are fair and equitable.

We always look at ways of maintaining and protecting our income sources, and closely monitor expenditure to ensure efficiencies, best value, whilst continuing to retain, maintain and enhance services and facilities.

In 2016/2017 Callington Town Council continued to complete the highways grass cutting and weed spraying (despite Cornwall Council stopping their grant). In addition, the grounds men completed works on the footpaths under the Local Maintenance Partnership Scheme, grass cutting for South Hill Parish Council and the Primary School, and weed spraying for Liskeard Town Council, Calstock Parish Council and St Dominic Parish Council. With this additional source of income, we have secured our staffing positions, enabled staff to enhance their skills, and upgraded some of the equipment.

In 2017/2018 we will be continuing our work with such contracts, to top up our income and mitigate the need to raise the precept at a time when costs are increasing and compliance issues accumulate.



Callington Town Council



Staff

The Town Council has nine staff which includes office staff, two caretakers, three groundsmen and a cleaner. There is a fully staffed Town Council office within the Town Hall. The Town Hall is central and easily accessible to residents, with excellent nearby parking for motor vehicles, adjacent to the bus station for public transport links and has facilities for the less-abled.

Structure

There are twelve Council members.

There is a Mayor who also has the ancient title of Portreeve.

There are five Committees with Executive Powers.

Planning Committee	Meets twice a month
Outside Services Committee	Meets once a month
Town Hall Committee	Meets once a month
Finance & General Purposes Committee	Meets once a month
Staffing Committee	Ad Hoc
Full Council	Meets once a month

SERVICES PROVIDED FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE PARISH

Responsibilities

Allotments. The Town Council owned allotments are split into 56 plots, all of which are tenanted.



Callington Town Council



Bus Shelters. The Council owns and is responsible for three bus shelters.

Cemeteries.

Plymouth Brethren Cemetery [closed], Not maintained.

Civic Cemetery [Open], owned and maintained by the Town Council and currently contains over 4000 interments.

Crime & Disorder.

PCSO. There are two PCSO's in Callington

Police Office. As from 2016 we provide accommodation to host the Police Service, in order to retain them in the town.

CCTV. We operate and manage the Towns CCTV scheme.

Designation Orders. We have an Alcohol Designation Area.

Film Shows. Throughout the year we run free film shows in the Town Hall to provide an alternative 'off the street' activity for children. We organize discos for the children at Easter, Halloween and Christmas, also in the Town Hall.

Community Events. We assist with organizing major events, actively subsidize and assist groups with annual community events such as the Festival Week, which includes the Carnival.



Callington Town Council



Local Networking. Our Councillors are elected to represent the Council on many groups and associations throughout the town including the Town Forum and youth groups in addition we work in partnership with other external groups both Area and County based.

Emergency Planning. We formulate and distribute a Major Disaster Plan, and update with annual reviews.

Free Car Park. We provide a free 78 space car park near the town centre for the use of visitors and residents.

Grant Applications. We have a policy to take advantage of any appropriate grant funding available for the town.

Heritage. We fully support the local Heritage Centre by providing accommodation free of charge in a Chapel we own. We also maintain historic structures such as the Callington Water Company fountain and the Town well on Well Street.

Information. The Town Council offices, within the Town Hall, act as an unofficial Tourist Information Centre and provides information on many attractions, facilities, services and groups.

We assist in the provision of public information services.

International Relations. We actively support the Twinning Association in its link with two European towns and host Civic receptions for visitors.



Callington Town Council



Information Service. The Town Council host Cornwall Council's Information Service. This provides information on a vast range of services and is manned by volunteers.

Pannier Market. We own and maintain the Pannier Market, the commercial premises and the parking within that area (have just reviewed the Parking Order).

Planning. This Council takes its planning recommendations seriously and promotes a paperless system.

Council Members always agree to convene the meeting to allow members of the public to make representations at planning meetings subject to notice being given to the Chair/Clerk.

Playground Equipment. We currently maintain four play equipment areas. We also maintain a modern Skatepark and Youth Shelter.

Press. We have a good relationship with the press and regularly publish press releases on the activities of the Town Council.

Publications.

Callington News published eleven months of year and distributed free of charge to businesses in the parish and further afield.

Promotional Leaflets. We work with many partners to produce leaflets to help promote the town and 'green' tourism, our Mural Trail and Heritage Walks are examples of this.



Callington Town Council



Social Media. Our website and Facebook is regularly updated by the office and provides lots of information on the community and businesses as well as the Town Council. **Our website is www.callington-tc.gov.uk.**

Public Conveniences. We have taken on ownership of the Public Conveniences, in the centre of the Town, from Cornwall Council and continue their cleaning and maintenance.

Recreation Parks. We own and maintain two large recreation parks both close to the centre of the Town, in addition to other small play areas.

Recycling. We actively promote recycling. Cornwall Council kerbside recycling bags can be ordered online via the Information Service. We frequently promote recycling in our Newsletter. We have our own environmental policy. We also have a small stock of jute bags which we sell for £1.00.

Town Hall. We own and maintain the Town Hall Complex as a community facility for groups and businesses within the Town, this also includes conference facilities. All bookings and invoicing is handled by our office.

Wayside Seats. We have thirty-six wayside seats about the Parish. We maintain all of these in addition to the numerous benches and seating areas within the parks and cemeteries.

Helen Dowdall
Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

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