

Roydon Parish Council
Report by District Councillor David Goldson
February 2019

The District Council held its annual budget meeting on 18th February.

It was feared that the meeting would be severely disrupted by demonstrators in the same way that the County Council meeting had been the previous week. On that occasion the singing and shouting by the demonstrators made it impossible for the meeting to proceed for several hours. At the District meeting three demonstrators were permitted to address the meeting and ask questions about the Council's attitude to global warming and the proposed western link to the Northern Distributor Road. They were supported by several members of the public in the gallery. Cabinet members responded by detailing the ecofriendly steps taken by the Council to limit the effect on carbon issues. As far as the link road was concerned SNDC had merely supported the County in its choice of the options available without comment on the need for the road at all. The demonstrators left the meeting without causing disruption.

The Council adopted three resolutions relating to Council Tax – to continue the CT support scheme for a further year, to increase the premium on long term empty dwellings and to extend relief for people leaving the care system.

The budget, having been subjected to extensive review by members at committee and cabinet, was passed without detailed discussion.

The District Council Tax was set at £150 for a band D property. This was the result of a £5 pa increase for the coming year (3.4%). After twelve years of holding increases at less than inflation, the central government decision to reduce, and finally cease paying, the annual rate support grant has meant that all councils have had to increase Council tax in order to continue to provide the services our residents need.

The average Town & Parish Council precepts increase is 5.46% and results in an average Band D figure of £78.19. It is interesting that the Band D rate set by Diss Town Council is now over £200 – far higher than the District rate!

In summary the Band D Council tax per year is shown below:

Authority	2018/19 £	2019/20 £	Increase £	Increase %
South Norfolk	£145.00	£150.00	£5.00	3.45%
County	£1,322.73	£1,362.24	£39.51	2.99%
Police	£229.14	£253.08	£23.94	10.45%
Sub-total	£1,696.87	£1,765.32		
Special expenses	£1.63	£0.22	£-1.41	-86.50%
Sub-total	£1,698.50	£1,765.54		
Town & Parish (average)	£74.14	£78.19	£4.05	5.46%
Total	£1,772.64	£1,843.73	£71.09	4.01%