

MARSTOW PARISH COUNCIL
FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2025
NOTES AND EXPLANATIONS
PREPARED APRIL 2025

Income

The precept remained at £9500 – unchanged for several years.

The parish council use the maintenance works of Balfour Beatty whenever possible with no charge to the parish funds - however with increased local situations caused by greater severity of weather the council will reevaluate this for additional local maintenance where greater frequency of attendance to some areas could be required.

As a consequence, it may be necessary to increase the precept to allow this service.

Whenever available the council will apply for a grant to assist against these costs.

Payments

Generally, increases are due to rising costs and inflation.

Churchyard maintenance contribution – the church is the historic focal point of our parish and community and the parish council continue to support the churchyard maintenance.

Reference our statement supporting this on our website.

The council also hold all public meetings at St Matthews church.

The parish council would take this opportunity to thank the dedicated team looking after the church and its ever-popular events and we are pleased whenever possible to make a contribution towards special events. Well done Team St Matthews !

Defibrillators – we now have three working defibrillators in the parish situated at Glewstone (2) and Pencraig (1). We expect during the start of the next financial year to have a further unit installed. Our grateful thanks go to Mandy McLelland and the team of residents working hard to achieve funding for a further unit at Glewstone and to our Chairman Alfie Williams and family supplying the unit at Pencraig. The parish council supplied the first unit at Glewstone and pay all maintenance costs required for all the units as a service to the parish.

Website – the website is very much the communication hub of information and activity for all parish and town councils and required by central government policy. Our website has all related council matters as well as contact details of members and also includes links to Herefordshire Council websites where residents can report parish related problems first hand such as fly tipping and of course road defects and potholes !

Maintenance work – this year Balfour Beatty have been used to carry out much of our maintenance work especially heavier work projects which has no cost to parish council funds. However, the severe winter weather has surprised us as all over the county and the council will now use a strategy of two directions of maintenance approach - continue using Balfour Beatty and their locality steward along with a lengthsman for the smaller but more frequent work needs. This will be by specific defined works supervised by a working group and to an agreed works timescale. Quotations will be obtained over the next months with a resolution made by the council members.

Elections - the council hold reserves of £1000 for potential called elections.