



August 2017

Dear Householder

I am contacting you on behalf of Naunton Parish Council regarding the proposed refurbishment of the village hall. These proposals were discussed at the village hall meeting on 29th April 2017 and followed up with a letter to all Naunton residents on 23rd May 2017. This letter provides the opportunity for you to decide whether the Parish Council should take out a loan to complete the funding for the proposed works, and whether you would be prepared to accept the resulting increase in your Council Tax.

The Village Hall Working Party looked at all options for the Village Hall and adopted the proposal for a complete refurbishment. Planning permission for those works has already been granted.

**Costs and funding for refurbishing the village hall**

The total cost of the first phase of the refurbishment project is expected to be £242,000. The Village Hall Trustees will provide £46,500 (including Gift Aid), the result of several years' fundraising within the village. Donations and pledges since the April meeting have already reached £59,000. We also hope to secure grants of circa £40,000. However, some of these grants will only be given if we can raise the £100,000 loan needed to fund the cost of the works.

The Parish Council recognises the need to refurbish the hall and, at the PC meeting on the 17th July 2017, agreed to consider providing financial support for the preferred option. This would be undertaken via a loan from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) to the Parish Council. The Council would then give this loan as a grant to the Village Hall Trustees. The loan repayments would be made from the Parish Precept, the part of the Council Tax which is managed by the Parish Council.

**Cost to Council Tax payers**

The Parish Council is proposing to take out a loan from the PWLB at 2.15% p.a. for the sum of £100,000 repayable over 20 years at £ 6,178 per annum. The resulting increase in precept contribution from each tax band is shown below:



	£							
Council Tax band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Current precept	17.77	20.74	23.70	26.66	32.58	38.51	44.43	53.32
Proposed precept	37.12	43.31	49.49	55.68	68.05	80.43	92.80	111.36
Annual increase	19.35	22.57	25.79	29.02	35.47	41.92	48.37	58.04
Weekly increase	0.37	0.43	0.50	0.56	0.68	0.81	0.93	1.12

Our precept is well below the national average and, even with this increase, will still be slightly below the average (£55.68 v £61.03). Please be aware that the precept is only a very small part of your total Council Tax bill (only 1.72% of a Band D property) and all other elements are also likely to change over time.

### For more information

If you would like more information please come to the drop-in event on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September between 10 a.m. and 12 noon in the Village Hall. Relevant information will be available and you will be able to talk to parish councillors and village hall trustees. You can also see all the relevant documents on the Naunton Parish Council website: [www.nauntonpc.org](http://www.nauntonpc.org).

### How to respond

There are three ways to let us know your views:

1. Complete the attached form and post it in the prepaid envelope
2. Leave the completed form in the secure box at the drop-in event at the village hall
3. Answer online via the 'Village Hall' page of the website

The deadline for sending your reply is **16<sup>th</sup> September 2017**. Please make sure you use this opportunity and respond using any of the three ways available to you. Responses will be counted on 18th September 2017 and will be discussed at the Parish Council meeting on the same date. If over 50% of Council Tax payers vote 'yes', the parish council will proceed with its application for the loan.