



NEWBURY Town Council

*Making Newbury a town we can all be
proud of*

ANNUAL REPORT & BUDGET 2021-22

**How the Town Council spends your
money to make Newbury a Town we
can all be proud of.**

**www.newbury.gov.uk | 01635 35486 | Town Hall, Market Place,
Newbury, RG14 5AA**



Annual Report

The last year has been extremely difficult for everyone due to Covid-19 and the resulting lockdowns and other restrictions. Despite the challenges Newbury Town Council has continued to deliver core services to our residents as far as possible.

For example:

- We were the first local council in West Berkshire to hold our meetings virtually and have ensured the public have been able to attend and ask questions.
- We have kept the markets running on both Thursdays and Saturdays throughout and as a result now have a much busier market with many new traders.
- Our parks and playgrounds have been open whenever the regulations have allowed.
- Our Allotments are thriving and are now at 100% occupancy.
- We have continued our support for Citizens Advice, town centre CCTV and the Christmas lights.



At the same time we have made significant progress on our strategic priorities and our goal of making Newbury a town we can all be proud of.

1) Help make Newbury a unique, welcoming, safe and well cared for Town.

- a. We completed a major upgrade to the City Recreation Ground. The old pathways on both the northern and western sides have been replaced with wider ones made from recycled rubber to give a sustainable, well-drained, cushioned surface, and we have installed new outdoor gym equipment and a new MUGA. We have also replaced some of the playground equipment.
- b. We upgraded the playgrounds at the Skyllings, Walton Way and Blossoms Field.
- c. We submitted our planning application for the planned new Community café and public toilets for Victoria Park. The design will minimise the environmental impact of the construction and we will strive to ensure the café is carbon neutral in its operation. We hope to open the new café by Easter 2022.

2) Foster a real sense of community

- a. The Mayor has been highly active despite the restrictions due to Covid and her presence, enthusiasm and support has been appreciated.
- b. We held socially distanced ceremonies to mark both VJ Day and Remembrance Sunday.

3) Take action to address the climate emergency

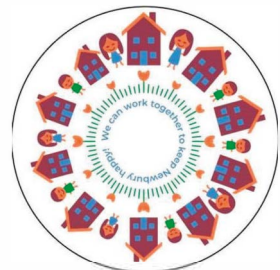
- a. We have reduced our carbon footprint by over 26 tonnes for the year April 2019 to March 2020 (all Pre-Covid) well ahead of our annual target of 7 tonnes.
- b. We held our second Climate Workshop on 19th September, this time on Zoom.
- c. We have awarded our first 2 Climate Grants to help the community mitigate the effects of climate change.

4) Focused support for young people, the elderly and the vulnerable

- a. In August we launched our partnership with Berkshire Youth to provide funding for the next 3 years for outreach youth work in Newbury.
- b. In 2021-22 we will add support for youth work at the Riverside Community Centre in Clay Hill and the Community Youth Project at the Nightingales.
- c. Our Grants Committee has awarded a total of almost £21,000 to over 20 charities that are providing support for our local community. This in addition to the total of over £4,000 that we have awarded specifically to those helping our residents through the Covid-19 crisis.

Please let us know if you have any comments, ideas or suggestions: towncouncil@newbury.gov.uk

Councillor Martin Colston
Leader of Newbury Town Council.



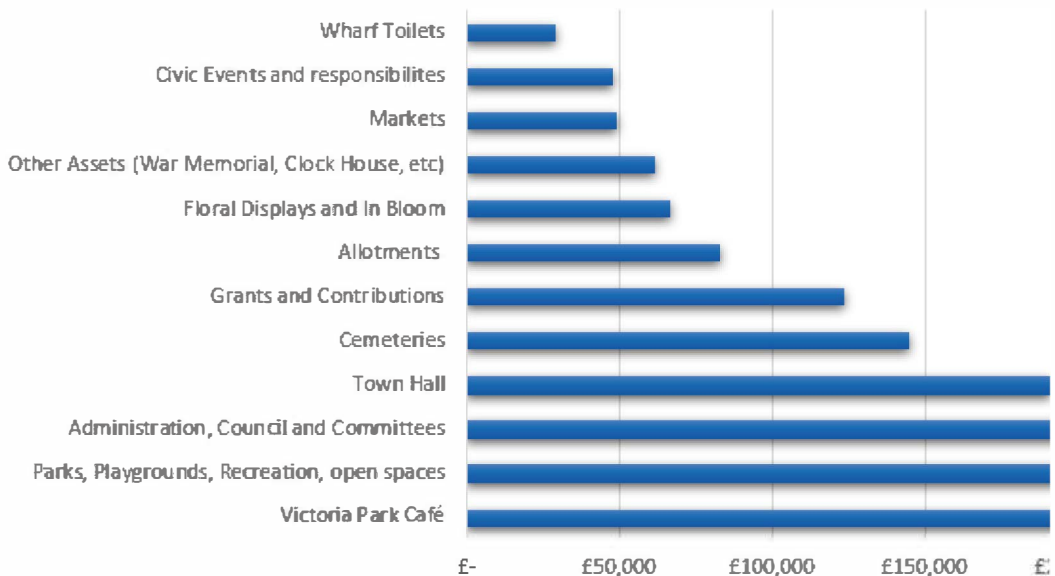


The precept explained 2021–22

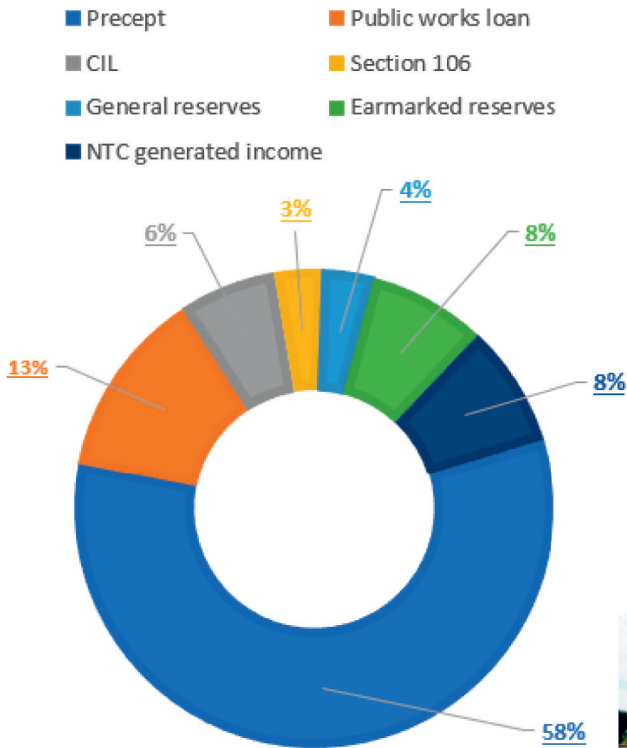
Newbury Town Council plans to spend £1.96M next year on providing services and facilities for the people of Newbury.

Almost 60% of our funds come from what is known as “The Precept”, which is the amount of Council Tax collected from Town Council residents and paid to this Council.

The total precept to be collected in 2021-22 from Newbury Town residents is £1,135,249.



INCOME 2021 -22



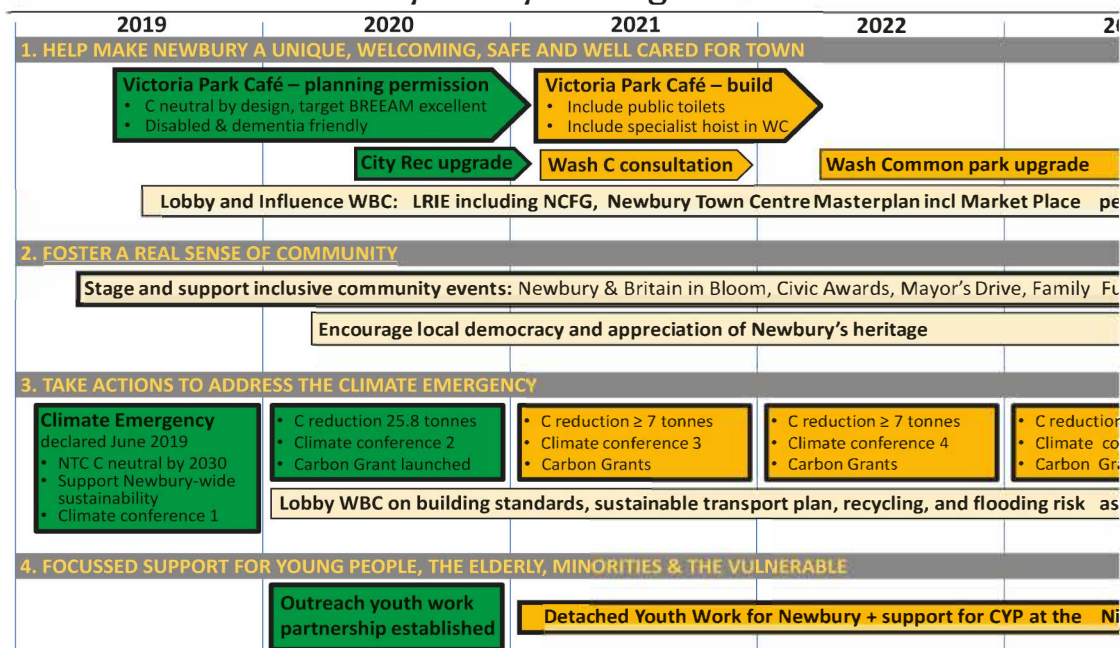
The Council Tax bill payable by West Berkshire residents is split into amounts for West Berkshire District Council, Thames Valley Police, The Fire and Rescue Service and your local town or parish council.

Newbury households will be paying an average of £87.82 in 2021-22 to Newbury Town Council for the services we deliver for the people of Newbury.



Strategy Summery

Summary of key strategic actions 2019 –2024



Services Provided

- Help Make Newbury a unique , welcoming, safe and well cared for town.
- Maintaining parks, recreation grounds and open spaces – including Victoria Park, tennis courts, renting football pitches & changing rooms. A full list of all the Council's playgrounds and leisure facilities can be found at www.newbury.gov.uk/playgrounds
- Running the Charter Markets on Thursdays and Saturdays
- Six allotment sites around the town, totaling around 550 individual plots
- Shaw Cemetery and Newtown Road Cemetery
- Maintaining Newbury Town Hall, the chamber is available for public hire including weddings and events.
- Hanging baskets and floral displays.
- Bus shelters and Visitor Information.
- Seats, litter bins, dog bins and grit bins and footway lighting around the town.
- Maintaining The Clock House and The War Memorial.
- The Wharf Toilets.
- Fostering a real sense of community
- The office of the Mayor and the Mayor's engagements.
- Civic awards, Remembrance Sunday Ceremony, Family Fun Day, Christmas Lights, Charity coffee mornings and more.
- Additional areas:
- Working to reduce carbon emissions and support organisations dealing with the Climate Emergency.
- Working with partners to deliver youth work services in Newbury.

Committees

Meetings

2023	2024
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a pedestrianisation, Sandleford, Local Plan	
ly Fun Day, Remembrance Sunday, etc	
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k assessment / prevention	
e Nightingales and at the Riverside Centre	

We carry out most of our business through the work of four main Committees which the public are welcome to attend. Details of these meetings are displayed on the notice board outside the Town Hall and on our website www.newbury.gov.uk

The Council

Sets precept, elects the Town Mayor and Leader of the Council, approves the Council's strategy and delegates most of the rest of its powers to its Committees:

The Planning & Highways Committee:

Comments on planning applications and highways matters in the Newbury area and meets every 3 weeks.

The Policy & Resources Committee:

Responsible for the financial, human and property resources of the Council.

The Community Services Committee:

Responsible for the maintenance of property assets and the provision of direct services to the public.

The Civic Pride, Arts & Leisure Committee: Promotes and co-ordinates arts and leisure facilities and activities for the community.

Grants Sub-committee:

Newbury Town Council awards grants to community organisations, leisure and the arts. For further information visit our website in April at www.newbury.gov.uk, call us on 01635 35486, or come along to the Town Hall.



Councillor Information

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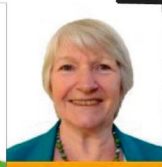


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