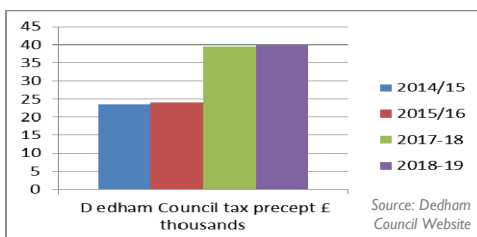


Council holds the tax precept steady for 2018-19

At its January meeting Dedham Parish Council set its annual precept at just under £40,000 for the year 2018/19. This is the amount that will be requested from Colchester Borough Council, to be collected through your council tax. It equates to a



'Band D equivalent' figure on the council tax bill of £43.36 per household. There will be a more detailed report on the council's finances in the next edition of this magazine.

New Councillors

John Millican and Jonathan Smith were co-opted as new councillors at the January meeting. John's background is in investment management and financial planning. Jonathan's is in civil and structural engineering. Jonathan will be joining the Planning Group and the Sports and Recreation Group and John will join the Business, Communications and Media groups and the Finance Group.

Parish office and tourist information point

Our new Parish office and Tourist Information Point, to be located in the Dedham Art and Craft Centre in Brook Street, will be launched on 14 February. The Parish office is intended to provide a focus for local residents who want to talk to someone from the Parish Council. It will initially be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to 12noon and will be staffed by either our Clerk, Emma Cansdale, or our

Assistant Clerk, Brian Hindley. Alternatively you can make an appointment at a different time by contacting the Clerk.

The Tourist Information Point, which is being developed in conjunction with the Munnings Art Museum, will be a resource for visitors to find out more about the local area. It will be staffed by volunteers when possible, but will also be open during the craft centre's normal opening hours for self-service leaflets and information.

Telephone boxes

Residents cannot fail to have noticed the deplorable state of various redundant telephone boxes around the countryside. British Telecom has a programme to remove de-commissioned boxes but is unable to say exactly when any specific boxes are scheduled for removal. The Parish Council has made a formal complaint. This does not apply to the red box on Brook Street, which still has a working telephone in it.

Community litter pick

Dedham will be joining in with the Great British Spring Clean which is scheduled nationwide for 2 to 4 March. We plan to have a community litter pick on Saturday 3 March with equipment provided by Colchester Council. More details will on: www.dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk, or get in touch with the Clerk, Emma Cansdale. Hope to see you there.

Parish Council meetings

For the time being our meetings are being held in the Assembly Rooms. Next meeting: **Monday 5 February 7.30pm.**

Nicola Baker

DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL
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