**DEBENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**PRECEPT 2019 – 20.**

The precept for Debenham is set by the parish council in January each year and has to be approved by Mid Suffolk District Council. The precept provides the parish council with nearly all the money it requires to operate and manage the services it provides in the village, e.g. Public toilets, grass cutting on village green areas, street lights, street cleaning, waste bins etc.

The parish precept forms a small part of your overall ‘Council Tax bill’, equating to about 5% of the total for a band D property.

The amount of council tax paid by each property is determined by two factors:

1. The property valuation ‘Band’, and
2. The ‘Tax Base’ for the parish.

The property bands are shown below for information:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Council Tax Bands | | |
| **Band** | **Range of Values** | **Proportion of Band D** |
| **A** | Up to and including £40,000 | 6/9 |
| **B** | £40,001 - £52,000 | 7/9 |
| **C** | £52,001 - £68,000 | 8/9 |
| **D** | £68,001 - £88,000 | 9/9 |
| **E** | £88,001 - £120,000 | 11/9 |
| **F** | £120,001 - £160,000 | 13/9 |
| **G** | £160,001 - £320,000 | 15/9 |
| **H** | £320,001 or more | 18/9 |

The ‘Tax Base’ is a figure that represents the number of ‘Band D’ properties in the parish. Each band A property is counted as 2/3 of a Band D, a band H property is counted as 2 band D properties etc. The tax base is then expressed as x number of band D properties.

This Tax Base figure for Debenham for next tax year 2019 – 20 is 813.12. This Tax Base has increased from last year by 12.7. This 1.59% increase spreads the cost over more properties which effectively reduces the amount each property has to pay. The tax base increase is fortuitous as it allows the precept to be increased by a larger percentage than will be passed on to council tax payers.

As a consequence of the tax base change and the small increase in parish council predicted expenditure next year, the parish council has decided to increase the parish precept to £74,232 (a 4.04% increase). This will equate to a band D property paying an extra £2.16 (a 2.41% increase) per year towards the parish precept. This equates to a cost of 4.2p per week per band D property. The parish council felt that such a small increase was justifiable, particularly as the tax base increase helps to soften the impact for council tax payers.