

# TOLLER PORCORUM PARISH COUNCIL

Full Parish Council Meeting | Wednesday 14 January 2026

## Appendix D – Updated DRAFT Budget Report

Minute reference: 26/01-8.iv and v

Prepared by clerk, Clare Smith, as RFO, after receiving the tax base from Dorset Council

This report is to be used alongside Appendix E – Updated DRAFT Budget Precept 2627

### Update

The equation used to estimate the impact of the budget and precept on Band D properties for the budget presented to TPPC at the meeting 19 November 2025 has proven to be flawed. It used the year-on-year increase only against the 2024/25 tax base and did not take into account the significant increase in Band D properties within the parish due to changes in how Council Tax is applied to second homes.

Residents were advised to expect a Band D increase in the range of 5 - 6%/£2.30 - £3.50. When Dorset Council issued the tax base for 2026/27 the budget and precept increase was confirmed to be 10.88%/£6.00. Councillors think this is unacceptable and proposed a special motion to revisit the decision made on the budget at the last meeting.

A different and more robust method of estimating the impact of the budget and precept on Band D properties has been identified and will be used in the future.

## Updated DRAFT Budget 2026/27

### Proposed Budget (pages 1 and 2 of Appendix E)

Areas that have been altered since the November meeting are outlined in red on Appendix E and listed below:

- 03 Staff costs: Additional hours reduced from 10 to 5, affecting salary and pension and reducing the budget by £91.92 from £4,218.93 to £4,127.01
- 05 Council Assets/22 Office equipment: £20 reduced to £0
- 06 Grants and Donations reduced by £125 from £1,700 to £1,575
- 08 Reserves – Earmarked/48 Rec Ground Reserve reduced by £124 from £1,000 to £876

### Proposed Reserves (page 3 of Appendix E)

Projected total reserves at end of 2026/27 will be reduced from £15,691.92 to £15,567.92.

Aim of total reserve of £20,000 by 2031 will require £1,108 in each of the next 4 years.

### Precept (page 5 of Appendix E)

The reductions to the budget listed above deliver a **precept of £10,666.00** (from £11,026.43), which is an increase on 2025/26 of £816.00/8.28%.

**This results in a confirmed Band D increase of £4.00 per year (8p a week) at 7.26%.**

### Action

Changes to the budget and the precept are recommendations from the RFO. TPPC can decide to implement these changes or make others to bring the budget and precept more in line with what has been advertised to residents.