

**Precept.** The precept is the sum of money paid by the Borough Council to finance the running of the parish council. This is reclaimed by the Borough Council from the tax payers in the villages, and all members of the public in the villages can scrutinise the accounts of the parish council to see how this money is spent. This really is the only part of our tax which is spent solely on Pertenhall and Swineshead.

The councillors, having been given financial facts by the Clerk/Financial Officer, decide each year what sum they will request.

This pays for the clerk's salary and expenses, for general administration, for insurance, for village hall rental, internal and external auditing of accounts etc.

It also pays for grants to village halls, PCCs and Honeycomb, which are re-negotiated each year, for items such as the new seat in Pertenhall and similar items when needed.

It does not pay for grass cutting [an annual grant is received from BBC], and normally for matters such as the Parish Plan the first step would be to find a grant from an outside source.

### **Pertenhall and Swineshead Quality Parish Council Budget and Precept 2008/9**

<u>Payments[before VAT]</u>	What was spent in 2007/8 including predictions for Jan/March 2008	Prediction for 2008/9
<b>Administration</b>	6104	7000
Audit	178	190
Insurance	592	600
<b>Open Spaces</b>		
Grass cutting	1452	2000
Notice boards and seats	---	500
<b>Grants and donations</b>		
Pertenhall Village Hall	250	250
Swineshead Village Hall	250	250
Honeycomb	100	100
Pertenhall PCC*	200	200
Swineshead PCC*	200	200
*to help upkeep of burial grounds..		
<b>Total</b>	<b>9326</b>	<b>11290</b>
<u>Income</u>	Income 2007/8	Predicted 2008/9
Grass cutting	2675	2675
Precept	6000	5000
Interest etc	360	360
<b>Total</b>	<b>9035</b>	<b>8035</b>
<b>Cash at 01.12/07</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>13132</b>	

### **Budget and Precept 2008/9**

#### Notes

1. These are not balanced accounts. I present balanced accounts in May. The purpose of these figures is to highlight increases or decreases in costs, either actual or predicted.
2. Notice boards and seats in both villages need money spent on them, possibly more than the £500 I have suggested. They affect the appearance of the villages and need a "face lift".
3. I have assumed there will be no increase in the grants allocated.

I consider that there is no need to increase the Precept this year and feel that a decrease of £1000 would be justified. I would recommend applying for a Precept of £5000.

**This reduction in the Precept was agreed by the Councillors, with 1 abstention, at the meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2008, Minute ref. 07.89 Finance.**

*Garry Telling [Clerk]  
10<sup>th</sup> January 2008.*

