

**STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL**  
THE FIRST TIER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT – NEAREST TO YOU THE TAX PAYER  
A message from Councillor Keith Davis, Mayor of Stocksbridge

Dear Resident,

**Why it is important to provide additional funding for your Town Council via Council Tax**

As one of only 3 areas of Sheffield that have a Town or Parish Council, and all of these being in the North of the City, we are extremely fortunate to be able, as elected Members, to inform the City Council or challenge potential decisions of the City Council before the final votes are taken. In short the Town Council gives you a voice, a voice in which to stand up for the place in which you live. The Town Council provides additional services, over and above those which Sheffield City Council provides by Law. In order for us to be able to do this, we precept a sum of money, collected for us by Sheffield City Council through the Council Tax. The Precept is our only income and we exist to redistribute this funding to protect and improve the quality of life for everyone living in our Community.

Council Tax bills for 2018/19 have started arriving through letterboxes. As can be seen on the bills the element of precept collected by Stocksbridge Town Council has risen by 3%. Below is a table highlighting the impact in monetary terms on each particular band property. The reason for the increase is due to the reduction in Council Tax Support Grant received from Sheffield City Council and the continued financial support given by the Town Council to 4SLC Trust to run the swimming pools at Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre.

The amount shown is the actual **ANNUAL** increase:-

PROPERTY BAND	ANNUAL INCREASE	PROPERTY BAND	ANNUAL INCREASE
A	£0.62	E	£1.14
B	£0.72	F	£1.34
C	£0.83	G	£1.55
D	£0.93	H	£1.86

Your Town Council has and will always continue to work with organisations across the City and with local Community Groups. We are committed to furthering the welfare of our Town and surrounding villages by working closely with Sheffield City Council, Yorkshire Water, Amey and other utility companies.

Fox Valley has now become a focal point in our Town and in April 2017 we saw the fantastic finish of the Tour de Yorkshire right here in STOCKSBRIDGE. It was a great day where we as a community showed the rest of the world what community life is all about.

We continue to support local community and action groups that benefit the people in our Town and villages. Your Community Leisure Centre saved from the jaws of closure by YOU and now once again thriving.

We continue to support the all important History Society (well worth a visit at the Town Hall). The Golf, Cricket, Rugby and Football Clubs as well as the various Community Associations around the area and many many other organisations.

We once again hosted our Senior Citizens Christmas Party where 170 people sat down to a meal and were entertained by Bolsterstone Male Voice Choir and of course Richie Richards, not forgetting the bingo. Our thanks go to The Venue and their staff for a fantastic lunch.

We consider applications for grants from various sources and we scrutinise each application to ensure your money is invested back into your community in the best possible way. Last year we authorised grants totalling £16,000 all to causes local to Stocksbridge, Deepcar and Bolsterstone.

Your Town Councillors are volunteers; they do not receive any payment for their duties as Councillors. Councillors are local residents like you and are involved in all aspects of life not just within Stocksbridge but also in our surrounding villages. Details of your Councillors are available on the Town Council website.

Warmest Regards,

*Keith*

Councillor Keith Davis: - South Ward (Bolsterstone and Whitwell Estate)