

STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

The first tier of Local Government — closest to residents and our communities

A message from Councillor Keith Davis, Mayor of Stocksbridge

Dear Resident,

Why we fund the Town Council via the Council Tax

We all recognise the importance of having local services within easy reach of our communities, especially when our community is so far away from the City Centre and transport links so poor. The Stocksbridge Town Council area (including Deepcar and Bolsterstone) is one of only three areas of Sheffield to have a Town/Parish Council. The public elect eight local Members of the Town Council to persuade and argue on behalf of our community, and make representations on the issues that matter most in the local area. The Town Council regularly represents the views of local people to organisations such as Sheffield City Council, ensuring that our local voice is properly heard and considered when decisions are made that affect the whole city.

Larger authorities are tasked with the provision of statutory services, however the Town Council provides additional services to the local community in a variety of ways to contribute to the social fabric of our area. In order to do so we levy a small precept on local properties, which is collected via Council Tax by Sheffield City Council on our behalf and then used to improve and protect the quality of life across our whole community. The element of precept collected by Stocksbridge Town Council has risen by 1%, which equates to £0.35 per annum on a Band D property. The table below shows the annual amount paid by properties in each Council Tax Band, together with the actual **ANNUAL** increase:

PROPERTY BAND	ANNUAL AMOUNT	ANNUAL INCREASE	PROPERTY BAND	ANNUAL AMOUNT	ANNUAL INCREASE
A	£23.48	£0.23	E	£43.03	£0.43
B	£27.38	£0.27	F	£50.85	£0.50
C	£31.29	£0.31	G	£58.68	£0.58
D	£35.21	£0.35	H	£70.43	£0.70

Your Town Council works closely with local community groups and external organisations, and is committed to pursuing local priorities such as championing local causes, supporting community groups and protecting our treasured landscape by defending our natural and built heritage. The Town Council is in a Strategic Partnership with the Steel Valley Project, for which they receive separate funding.

We continue to support our community run Leisure Centre and increased funding to them in 2025/26. We have, and will continue to provide funding for our local community groups so they can continue to provide a service to the community and groups where residents benefit, such as Stocksbridge Pentaqua Swimming Club, Valley in Bloom, STEP Business Centre, Stocksbridge & Penistone Fairtrade, Bolsterstone Parochial Church Council, Men in Sheds, Stocksbridge Photographic Society, Stocksbridge History Society, Sheffield Lip Reading Group, Stocksbridge Photographic Society, Stocksbridge Community Care Group, Upper Don Community Energy, and Monday Art Group Stocksbridge. Our Participatory Budgeting Scheme has awarded funding to Steel Valley Beacon Arts, Bolsterstone Village Hall Trust, Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre and Steel Valley Project. We host a Senior Citizen's Christmas Party for up to 150 of our OAP's, a Christmas Card Competition for the local schools, and hold a contract for the Christmas lights in the Town.

Your local Town Councillors are volunteers and we do not receive payment for the duties we undertake; we are involved in community groups across the local area because, like you, we love this area and want to support it. We are always open to listening to residents' ideas on how we can improve the area or regarding problem issues that are developing. Our contact details can be found on the Town Council website: www.stocksbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk and full Town Council meetings are held the second Thursday of most months and are open to all members of the public to attend.

With kindest regards for the year ahead,

Keith

Councillor Keith Davis, Mayor of Stocksbridge and Councillor for the East Ward (Deepcar)