



Local Government News .February 2018.

Council Tax.

Regrettably Council Tax will go up by about 5% in 2018. I say 'about' because Parish precepts and some other information has to be factored into the calculation.

The biggest chunk of tax is levied by the County Council. On February 6th East Sussex County Council agreed a 5.99% rise of which 3% is entirely dedicated to Adult Social Care. There will still need to be service cuts because to bridge the gap between the Council's income and expenditure would need at least a 12% increase. A series of consultations are being carried out in the next few weeks on options for libraries, waste disposal and some social services. This will be a genuine consultation. Some proposals on the table such as the closure of the Forest Row Household Waste tip will soon be ditched.

The Police and Crime Commissioner has increased the police precept by £5 per household for band D homes with proportionate changes for other bands.

Wealden Council is likely to increase its tax by 2.7%. We have been able to keep this relatively low because of the rental income of £600,000 per year from our new investment in Hailsham Town Centre.

Car Parking.

The latest on the car parking saga and whether we should charge for on street parking in our market towns to pay for parking enforcement is that the plan has been firmly rejected by Wealden Council's Cabinet. The police should face up to their legal responsibilities.

It is important that we look after the commercial health our Town centres.

Roy Galley.
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Your local Councillors.

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