

REPORT OF THE PARISH REMUNERATION PANEL

Launton Parish Council has received a report by the Parish Remuneration Panel making recommendations regarding the levels of parish remuneration.

The proposals of the Parish Remuneration Panel are as follows:

Whilst acknowledging parish populations were increasing; the Panel agreed that the banding levels were still appropriate. The panel would continue to review population levels annually to ensure parishes were banded correctly.

The bandings for 2020/21:

- Band 1 – Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington
- Band 2 – Adderbury, Ambrosden, Bloxham, Bodicote, Caversfield, Deddington, Gosford and Water Eaton, Heyford Park, Hook Norton, Launton and Yarnton;
- Band 3 – All remaining Parishes

The levels of allowance for the financial year 2020/2021 should continue to be based on a proportion of the District Council rates. The Council agreed on 28 February 2020 that allowances should be increase in line with the staff cost of living increase. Negotiations have now concluded and an increase of 2.75% has been awarded. Member allowances have therefore increased by 2.75% rounded either up or down whichever is closest to 12 equal payments.

- (a) that if parish councils wish to pay parish basic allowances, these be as set out below and paid to all parish council members according to the relevant band:-

Band 1 (Banbury, Bicester and Kidlington) - £900 per annum

Band 2 (Adderbury, Bloxham, Bodicote, Deddington, Hook Norton and Yarnton) - £456 per annum

Band 3 (All remaining Parishes) - £228 per annum

- (b) that if parish councils wish to pay an enhanced allowance to parish chairmen/town mayors this be based on a 50% increase in the recommended rates of the parish basic allowance so that the chairman/town mayor would receive a payment, according to the relevant band, as follows:-

Band 1 - £1344 per annum

Band 2 - £672 per annum

Band 3 - £336 per annum

(c) that there be no increase in Travel and Subsistence Allowances

Bicycles	20p per mile
Motorcycles	24p per mile
Motor Vehicles (including Electric)	45p per mile
Breakfast Allowance	£6.02 per meal
Lunch Allowance	£8.31 per meal
Evening Meal Allowance	£10.29 per meal
Absence Overnight	£91.14
Absence Overnight in London or at a National Association of Local Council's Conference	£103.96

(d) that it would be appropriate for the payment of tolls and other parking charges to continue to be included in parish allowance schemes;

(e) that it would be appropriate for the occasions when parish members can travel by means other than by their own vehicle to continue to be defined in parish allowance schemes; and

(f) that it be noted that each parish council can determine the 'approved duties' for which it is legitimate to claim travel and subsistence allowances within the five categories specified in the 2003 Regulations.

The Parish Council will consider the report at a future meeting and decide whether it wishes to use these recommendations, amend these recommendations to form a Members Allowance Scheme or, alternatively, decide not to adopt a Members Allowance Scheme.

A copy of the panel's report is available for inspection on request from the Clerk, or Chairman of the Parish Council, or from Democratic Services at Cherwell District (democracy@cherwellandsouthnorthants.go.uk 01295 221534)

Please note:

Launton Parish Councillors have previously agreed not to take any of the allowances apart from mileage to external meetings.