

## REPORT OF THE CLERK ON THE DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2022-23

### Expenditure

- a sum of £1,500 has been included in respect of the basic allowance of £150 that each Member can claim.
- a sum of £3,000 has been included for the cost of the May election, Ceredigion CC will be claiming the actual cost of holding an election. This will only be payable if an election needs to be held i.e. whether we get more than ten candidates.
- a sum of £15,000 has been included for the playground extension

### Income

There has been an increase in the Council Tax Base for Band D properties (a formula worked out by the Ceredigion accountants) from 533.39 to 557.89. I've therefore shown an increase in the **Precept** (the amount raised by the Council) from £15,000 to **£16,000**. This means a slight increase in the **Council Tax** for households from £28.12 to **£28.68** per annum. I'm recommending this increase to cover the proposed expenditure.

- VAT Refund - this is an actual amount to be claimed back based on 2021-22 expenditure
- Playground - I've included an estimated 50% grant
- Use of Reserves of £3,000. The estimated level of reserves as at 31st March is £16,000. Wales Audit recommend reserves at a similar level to the Precept. So, if we reduce this by £3,000 to £13,000, we will need to replenish it in 2023-24 to bring it back to a level of around £16,000.

