## Horden Parish Council

Horden Social Welfare Centre Seventh Street Horden Peterlee County Durham SR8 4LX Tel: 0191 518 0823

## Open letter to the residents of Horden.

The staff and councillors of Horden Parish Council have been working on the budget for 2025/2026 in an attempt to keep the council 's precept rise to a minimum. The increasing cost of living along with the Government's increase in employers' National Insurance contributions, the decision to reduce the council tax support grants given to town and parish councils and a reduction in the number of households paying Council Tax have all put our budget under immense pressure. In order to maintain our parks and cemetery to the high standard we feel the residents deserve, we have no choice but to raise the precept by 28.5 pence per week for band A properties and 42.8 pence for band D properties. This increase will allow us to continue to provide services to Horden, which include, summer activities for children, Christmas tree and carol service as well as the Remembrance Day Parade.

This year we need to rebuild the South Terrace wall by way of a grant to the Horden Recreation Ground charity (Welfare Park) and other long- term projects including the refurbishment of play areas.

We understand that some residents may not be happy with this rise, however we are sure that residents will understand the need to keep our open spaces up to the current standard for use by the residents and visitors to Horden.

## **Horden Parish Councillors**

