



COLNEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Highfield Park Office
Hill End Lane
St Albans
Hertfordshire AL4 0RA
Tel: 01727 825314 Email: clerk@colneyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk

Colney Heath Village Office
83 High Street
Colney Heath
Hertfordshire AL4 0NS

22nd April 2021

**RE: Freedom of Information Act 2000
Colney Heath Parish Council – Increase in Precept 2021/22**

I am replying to you in response to your further email received 20th April 2021 which has again been treated as a Freedom of Information request.

The questions you asked are addressed with responses as follows:

Your request:

By the way does the renting of office accommodation cost anything.

Our response:

The Parish Council maintains two offices within the Parish of Colney Heath.

The Colney Heath Parish Office is in the Colney Heath Village Hall and currently costs are in the region of £1000 per year for business rates. However, it is expected this will increase as a percentage of utility bills is under negotiation with the property owner.

The Office in Highfield Park costs £4500 per year.

Your request:

Surely it is more appropriate for the administration of the Parish Council to actually be in Colney Heath rather than some detached place a long way away?

Our response:

Both Parish Council offices are in Colney Heath Parish. Colney Heath Parish contains most but not all Colney Heath Village, Highfield, Hill End, Sleapshyde, Tyttenhanger, Oaklands and part of the Alban Way.

Your request:

Why don't you sell it off and that would bring in a considerable amount to help out with your unrealistic tax demands?

Our response:

The Parish Council do not own their own Council office.

Your request:

I suppose that you never actually think of the people who have to foot the bills. By the way how many councillors actually live in Colney Heath?



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Our response:

Councillors reviewing the budget and expenditure commenced the process in October 2020 and the budget was carefully reviewed both in Committees and Full Council.

Of the current serving seven Parish Councillors three of them have an address within Colney Heath Village however all of them reside within the Colney Heath Parish.

I hope this sufficiently addresses your questions.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Chaplin LCGI PSLCC CPFA CiLCA
Clerk to the Council
For and on behalf of
Colney Heath Parish Council