

Alternative Budget

Proposal

Increase council tax by 0.5% in 2026/27 not 2.99% then remaining years are as per budget proposed.

Proposal	Impact on current budget	Funding source to balance the budget
Increase council tax by 0.5%	223,861.89 in 2026/27 231,708.14 in 2027/28 239,829.39 in 2028/29 Total: £695,399.42	Reduction in contribution to budget support reserve 2026/27
Freeze car parking charges	None - already in	
Feasibility study for a new car park in Eccleshall	£30k cost	Reduction in contribution to budget support reserve 2026/27
Feasibility study for a new learner pool at Stone Leisure Centre	£30k cost	Reduction in contribution to budget support reserve 2026/27
Rural business start up grant scheme	£100k cost	Reduction in contribution to budget support reserve 2026/27
Grants for individual councillors to give with the scheme administered by the voluntary sector community foundation (£2.5k per councillor plus 10% admin charge)	40 councillors $40 \times 2500 = £100,000$ Admin fee= £10,000 Total cost = £110,000	Reduction in contribution to budget support reserve 2026/27
Total over 3 year budget	£957,899.42	£957,899.42