

Buckfastleigh

“Engaging our Community”

Welcome
...and thanks for coming...

Please make sure you have filled out your contact details before you leave tonight – we want to keep you in touch

Town Council Goals

- Opening up Democratic Process
- Engaging, encouraging & supporting wider participation in planning and building Buckfastleigh of the future
- Empowering People

...So we can respond appropriately to changes and work together to make it even better

Why are we here?

- Neighbourhood Plan starting point – next steps
- Prioritise goals
- Establish Communication – both ways
- Explore ways to work together to achieve goals

Why now?

- + Strong community spirit & momentum forged in the face of adversity
- + Communal desire to improve the community
- + Localism Act gives new powers to local councils & communities
- Community under stress of ongoing cuts to public services
- Effective voice to fight for our community
- Ways to provide more services ourselves

....what can we learn from what other communities are doing?

What's the schedule?

- Review Town Council's role and resources
- Prioritising issues/goals
- Workshop – Issue specific breakout groups
- Feedback
- Next Steps...

TC Powers & Duties

Very restricted power & resources since 1972...

BUT ...

Localism Act has increased these powers

County & District cuts increase need...

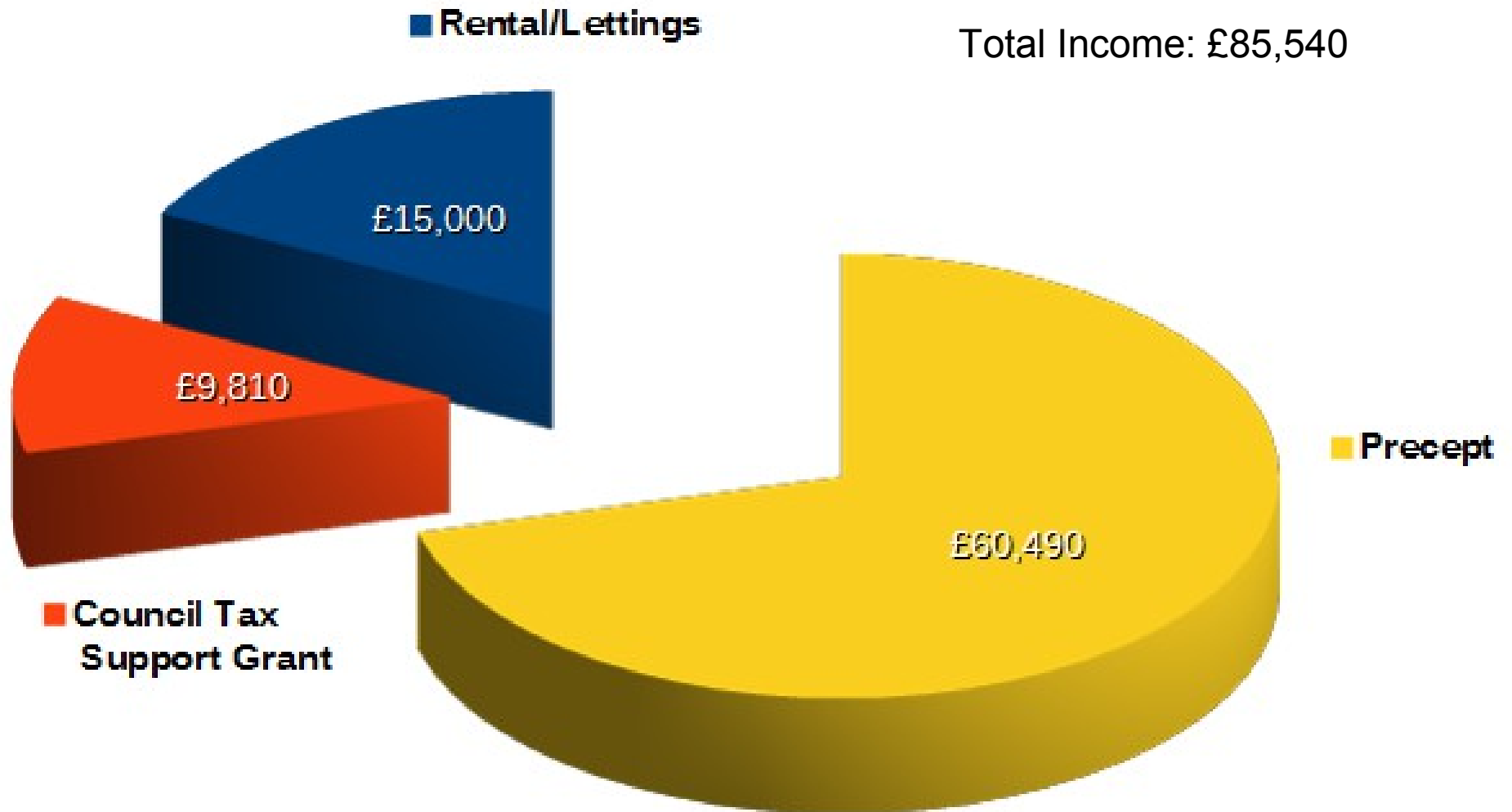
BUT ...

haven't increased available resources

...What can the Town Council actually do?...

Function	Powers and Duties		
Annual tax to fund activities	Power to charge a tax or precept on its community and households in the parish		Power to enter into agreement as to dedication and widening
Allotments	Powers to provide allotments, Duty to consider providing allotment gardens if demand unsatisfied,		Power to provide roadside seats & shelters Power to complain to district councils regarding protection of rights of way and roadside wastes
Appointment of an internal auditor	Duty to appoint an independent and competent internal auditor		Power to provide traffic signs and other notices Power to plant trees etc. and to maintain roadside verges
Baths & wash houses	Power to provide	Investments	Power to participate in schemes of collective investment
Bio Diversity	Duty to consider in decision making	Land	Power to acquire by agreement, to appropriate, to dispose of land
Burial grounds, cemeteries & crematoria	Power to acquire, provide and maintain shelters, Power to agree to maintain monuments & memorials, Power to contribute towards expenses of cemeteries,		Power to accept gifts of land
Bus shelters	Power to provide & maintain shelters,	Litter	Provision of receptacles
Bye laws	Powers to provide bye laws for: Pleasure grounds Cycle parks Baths & wash houses Open spaces & burial grounds	Lotteries	Powers to promote
Charities	Duties regarding parochial charities	Mortuaries & post mortem rooms	Powers to provide mortuaries and post mortem rooms
Christmas lights	Power to provide to attract visitors	Newsletters	Power to provide information relating to matters affecting local government
Citizens advice bureau	Power to support	Nuisances	Power to deal with offensive ditches
Clocks	Power to provide public clocks	Open spaces	Power to acquire land & maintain
Closed churchyards	Powers to maintain	Parish property & documents	Powers to direct as to their custody
Commons & common pastures	Powers in relation to enclosure, regulation and management, providing common pasture.	Postal & telecommunications facilities	Power to pay public telecommunications operators any loss sustained providing post or telegraph office or telecommunication facilities
Conference facilities	Power to provide and encourage use of facilities	Public buildings & village hall	Power to provide buildings for offices and for public meetings and assemblies
Community centres	Power to provide and equip community buildings Power to provide buildings for use of clubs having athletic, social or educational objectives	Public conveniences	Power to provide
Crime prevention	Powers to spend money on various crime prevention measures	Parks & pleasure grounds	Power to acquire land or to provide recreation grounds, public walks, pleasure grounds and open spaces and to manage and control them
Drainage	Power to deal with ponds & ditches	Publish Information on a website	Duty on smaller authorities (Councils) to publish specified information on a website
Energy Saving	Power to promote in the community	Recreation	Power to provide a wide range of recreational facilities Provision of boating pools
Entertainment & the arts	Provision of entertainment and support of the arts including festivals and celebrations	Town & Country planning	Right to be notified of planning applications
Gifts	Power to accept	Tourism	Power to contribute to organisations encouraging tourism
Highways	Power to repair and maintain public footpaths & bridle-ways Power to light roads & public places Power to provide parking places for vehicles,	Traffic calming	Powers to contribute financially to traffic calming schemes
		Transport	Powers to spend money on community transport schemes
		Village signs	Power to use decorative signs to inform visitors
		War memorials	Power to maintain, repairs, protect and adapt war memorials
		Water supply	Power to use well spring or stream and to provide facilities for obtaining water therefrom

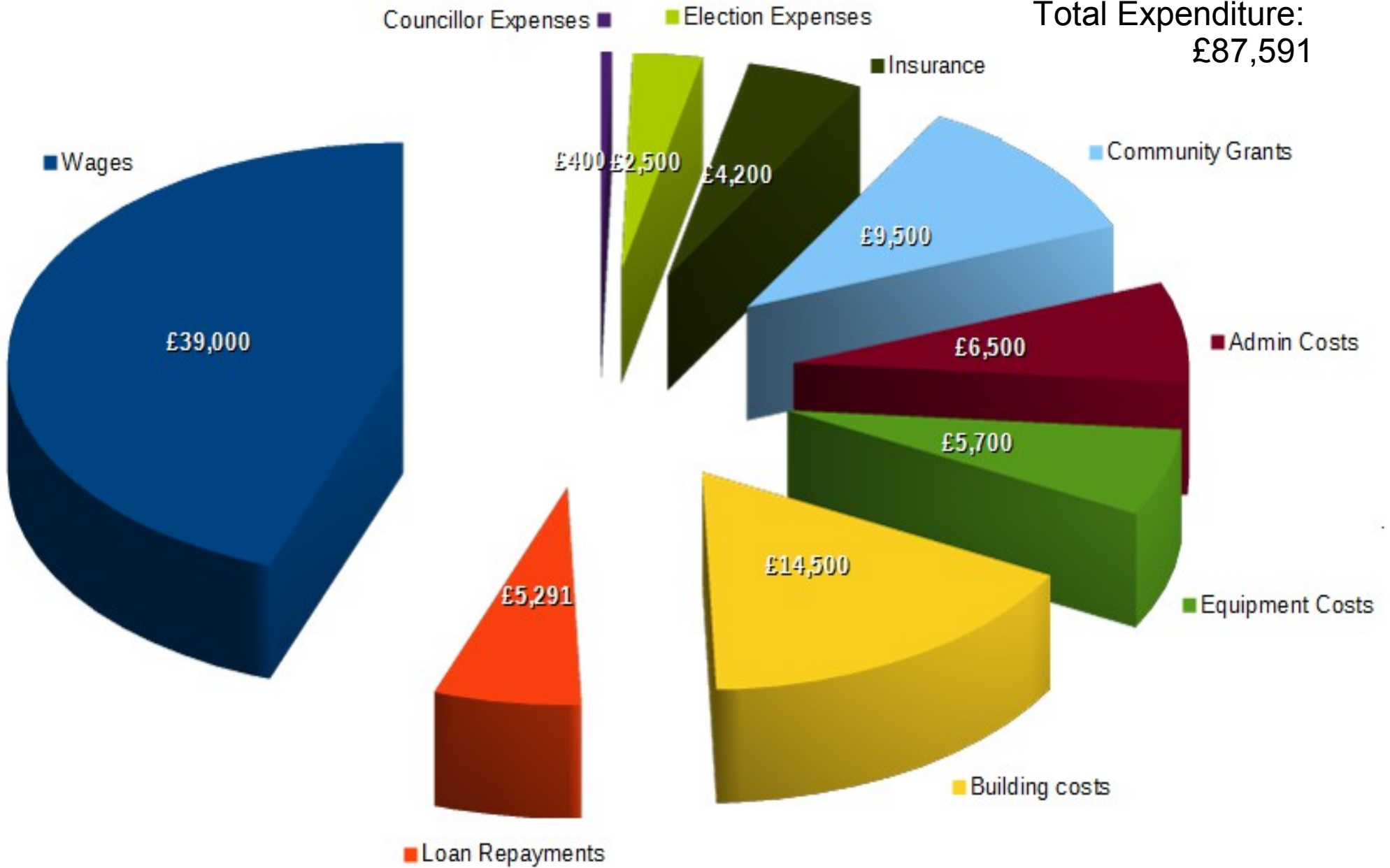
Buckfastleigh Town Council/Hall Income



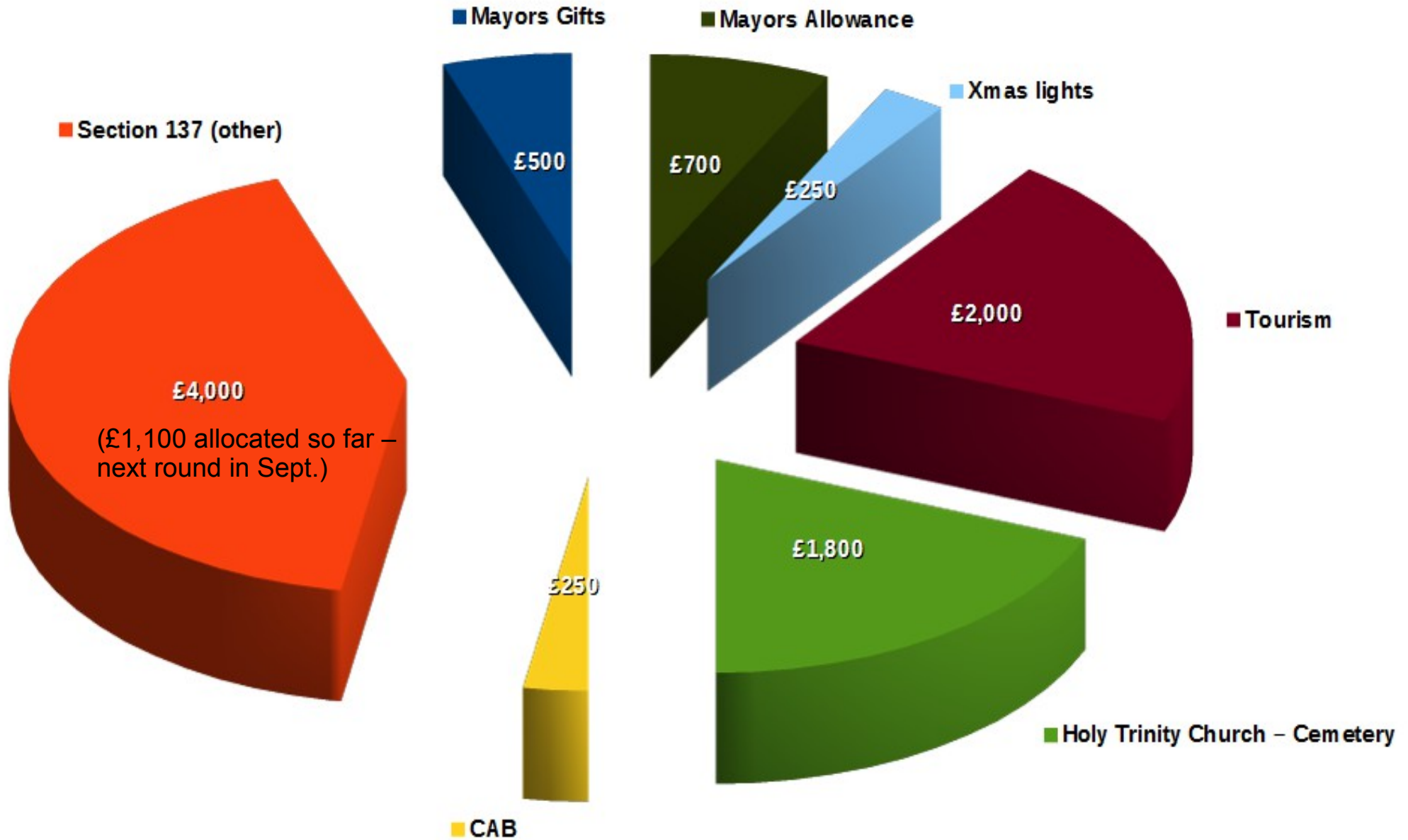
Average Council Tax Precept = £54 per household

Buckfastleigh Town Council/Hall Expenditure

Total Expenditure:
£87,591



Grants and Gifts



NOTE: We can also apply for organisations to access the Teignbridge Elector Fund.
Total grants up to £1.10 per member of the parish electorate = $2820 \times £1.10 = £3,102$

...So how do we achieve our goals?...

- Council has limited resources – but some influence and powers
- Work together
- Involve more people - work as a community
- Raise funds and develop our resources

...we can do more **together**...

Buckfastleigh Needs You!

Exploration...

Choose or suggest a topic that you think is important...

- What is/are the issue(s)?
- What do you think could be done?
- Who else should be involved & how could you involve them?
- **What would be a first step?**
- What do you need to get there (support, resources, funding, tools)?

You will get a chance to feedback your thoughts

Youth & Leisure

- Rebuild skate-park
- Redesign/develop Victoria Park
- Increase local educational opportunities
- Improve facilities resources for young people – keep youth club open

Tourism

- Ways to encourage visitors/ Tourism to the town
- Initiate an annual arts/food/music festival (Reintroduce Pear Pie Day?)..

Community

- Do something about Dog poo!
- Measures to alleviate flood risk
- Ensure the future of Buckfastleigh Library
- Community-run food kitchen / meals-on-wheels service supplied by local growers & cooks
- A 'Library of Things' – a community-shared resource of useful items

Environment & Nature

- Create community composting site
- Create Community gardens/growing spaces/allotments
- Supporting local growers and food producers/ develop farmers market
- Ensure development of Whitecleaves quarry as nature reserve/bat centre
- Plastic Bag-Free Buckfastleigh

Planning & Economy

- Determine future of Devonian Site
- Change the one-way system through the town
- Encourage more housing build – self-build/affordable/community housing
- Reduce noise from A38
- Encourage development of business park at Salmon Park
- Improve local opportunities for employment
- Create an online directory of local businesses, services & skills

Travel & Transport

- Improve parking in the town
- Develop and improve footpath and cycle path network around the parish
- Improve local public transport

- ... and what have we missed?...

Reminder...

Start with brief intro's – Who are you? Why is this issue important to you?

Identify...

- What is/are the issue(s)?
- What do you think could be done?
- Who else should be involved & how could you involve them?
- **What would be a first/next step?**
- What do you need to get there (resources, funding, tools)?

Feedback

- What is/are the issue(s)?
- Who do you need to involve?
- What is your next step?

...Please keep it brief!

Follow-up

- Group...
 - How are you going to move on your first step & how can we help
 - *Each target at least one other person to join you...*
- Council...
 - Another meeting like this in ... weeks
 - Email follow-up?
 - Meet individually with your group?

Questions?...

Communications: make sure all your contact details (ideally email addresses) are left with us with details of which project(s) you would like to engage with...