



## **OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes of the Parish council meeting held on the 18th November 2013 in the village hall.

Present:	Parish Councillor	R Curtis (Chairman) B Bartlett (Vice Chairman) P Tully D Peaster K Barrow M Cavill S Morgan
	County Councillor	J Edney
	District Councillor	J Pay
	District Councillor	M Caswell

### **1.APOLOGIES**

### **2.MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SESSION**

There were no members of the public present so the meeting continued with matters on the agenda.

### **3.Declarations of Members Interest in respect of Items on the Agenda**

There were no declarations of members interest.

### **4.MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING**

The minutes of the October meeting were approved by Cllr Tully and seconded by Cllr Barrow.

## **5. New Items for Discussion**

### **Precept**

The clerk reminded the councilors of the increases that had been applied to the precept in the past three years:

2011/12 increased 25% 2012/13 increased 20% 2013/14 increased 17%

It was agreed unanimously to increase the precept by only 5% this year, as the council were not expecting any large expenses in the next 12 months.

### **Provision of 20kg Bags of De-Icing Material Pick Up**

SDC have been in touch to inform Over Stowey Parish Council that on Saturday 23rd November there will be 20kg bags of de-icing material that can be collected from the Area Highways Office. Cllr Curtis offered to go and pick the bags up.

### **Pollarding of Trees in Over Stowey Churchyard**

Clerk has received a letter from the Parochial Church Council maintaining that in 1991, the PCC transferred responsibility for maintenance of the churchyard to the Parish Council. Current members of the council had understood this referred to grass cutting which the parish council pays for every year on an ongoing basis. The letter implies that this task also includes maintenance of trees and the churchyard wall and requested that certain works of this nature are carried out in the near future. However the letter also confirms that the PCC paid for this type of work in 2002, thus implying that it was still their responsibility. As taking on these works would commit the parish to considerable expense, the council decided that they would look into the archives and study the minutes from meetings around this time before making any decision. In the interim the clerk will reply to the letter and advise that the council is looking into the matter.

## **6. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **7. Any Other Business**

Landowners that have been approached by Council members to cut their hedges back have responded well. There are a couple more that still need to be contacted, but it is hoped that they will also comply.

