

**Easthope Shipton and Stanton Long Parish Council**  
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**Statement re the precept for Easthope Shipton and Stanton Long Parish Council for the year  
2018 -2019**

The Shropshire Council tax bills have recently been received by residents. It has come to the attention of the Parish Council that it appears the Parish Council element of the overall bill has increased by 130%, this is an administration error.

The Parish Council element of the bill is a very small percentage of the overall bill so the numbers are relatively small.

We have consulted with Shropshire Council to establish whether they can amend the bills however we are advised it cannot be reversed because the costs are too excessive to make the process possible.

Each year the Parish Council sets a very modest budget to cover its basic running costs, this can be viewed on its website [www.esslparishcouncils.co.uk](http://www.esslparishcouncils.co.uk) or a copy requested from the clerk. For 2018-19 the budget was set at a virtually identical level to previous years which would have given rise to a minimal percentage increase, however due to an administrative error an incorrect amount was included in the overall council tax bills.

This means that the Parish Council will be given greater funds than it needs. These funds will not be spent and will be retained and used towards the budget set for the year 2019-2020. The funds will not be lost or used for unbudgeted projects unless they are of clear benefit to the Parishes.

The impact of this error and the resulting levy has meant a band D property is being asked to pay an extra £20.00 than it would otherwise have, this is for the whole year, this equates to 38p per week or 5p per day.

The clerk and Parish Council are very sorry for any inconvenience this causes. Measures have been put in place to ensure it does not happen again and the Parish Council has also asked Shropshire Council to review the design of the form which requests the Parish element of the council tax to reduce the risk of this happening again. We understand this is going to be reviewed before the next request is sent out in late 2018.

Jayne Madeley  
Clerk to Easthope Shipton and Stanton Long Parish Council  
21.3.2018

