1. Slide - shopping
   Shopping
   A recent retail industry survey revealed the average weekly shop for a family of 4 is now around £151 a week. Your parish council costs each household in the village just one third that for a whole year. For comparison purposes our nearest neighbour South Stoke costs householders roughly twice that year.

2. Slide - invoice
   Value
   What do you get for your £50 a year? Some of it will be obvious. This building that we all enjoy so much, its mortgage payments, its repairs, the cost of insurance, the car park and driveway and so on.

   There's the cutting of the rec and the grass verges, maintenance and repairs of the playground, taking care of the trees, shrubs and hedges around the rec, the emptying of litter and dog bins, and the management and cost of district and county council services, for example the road safety markings that were refreshed last year.

3. Slide - graph
   Cost of living
   While the cost of the weekly shop, utility bills and fuel is rising all the time, the cost of the parish council has remained unchanged for the last three years. This is partly thanks to councillors and others volunteering their time and effort and partly the council's prudent management of its budget.

   Our parish councillors, present and past have never sought any of the allowances to which they are entitled, nor any expenses for minor costs. There are no duck houses or cleaned moats here.

4. Slide – inspectors
   Finally scrutiny and oversight. No public body these days exists without several others peering over its shoulder, and parish councils are no exception.

   We've just finished our Annual Governance and Audit Review. This involves scrutiny of all financial records and controls by both internal and external auditors, and posting the accounts on the village web site.

   There is also scrutiny by the democratic services team at South Oxfordshire District Council who oversee our standing orders, codes of conduct, professional standards, and pecuniary interests of our councillors.

5. Slide - question mark.
   Questions?

   Thank you.