

Explanation of variances 2024/25 – pro forma

Name of smaller authority:

Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all [Blue](#) highlighted boxes

Now, please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following that will be flagged in the green boxes where relevant:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £500);
- variances of more than £100,000 must be explained even where this constitutes less than 15%;

Please ensure variance explanations are quantified to reduce the variance excluding stated items below the 15% / £500 / £100,000 threshold

	2025	2024	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?		Explanation (must include narrative and supporting figures) Note: If an explanation is required for the variance of Box 4 and the explanation refers to a change in hours or a change in pay rates, please could you note the previous hours/rates and the updated hours/rates
	£	£			Is > 15%	Is > £100,000	
1 Balances Brought Forward	26,550	7,391					Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward does not agree
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	29,000	18,900	10,100	53.44%	YES	NO	A zero based budget review was undertaken when setting the precept request accounting for all potential income and expenditure in 2024/2025. Additionally it was highlighted in the 2023/2024 external audit that reserves within the Parish Council were low therefore a decision was made to increase the reserves by requesting a higher percentage of budget. Given that the Parish Council has a relatively small precept previously and increase of £10,100 represents a significant % increase for a relatively small sum of money.
3 Total Other Receipts	19,998	7,160	12,838	179.30%	YES	NO	In the previous financial year the Parish Council made a bid for a grant which was agreed however the sum of £16500 was not paid to the Council until this financial year thus representing a significant % increase.
4 Staff Costs	7,471	8,442	-971	11.50%	NO	NO	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO	
6 All Other Payments	22,368	39,309	-16,941	43.10%	YES	NO	In 2023/2024 the Parish Council purchased a significant amount of play equipment to the value of £22394.93 on the back of being awarded a grant of £16500 however at the end of the financial year the grant had not been paid. Expenditure is down this year as no large projects have been undertaken although further play equipment has been purchased in 2024/2025 to the value of £6738.07. Additionally the contractor for the maintenance of public areas undertook minima work across the parish resulting in lower costs however after a tender process a new contractor has been appointed for 2025/2026.
7 Balances Carried Forward	45,709	-14,300	60,009	-419.64%	NO	NO	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	146,000	139,040	6,960	5.01%	NO	NO	
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO	