

## Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **YARDLEY HASTINGS PARISH COUNCIL**

County area (local councils and parish meetings only): **NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

Please provide **full explanations, including numerical values**, for the following:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- a breakdown of approved reserves if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

Section 2	2019/20 £	2020/21 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
<b>Box 2</b> <i>Precept</i>	14,807	15,339	532	+3.59	
<b>Box 3</b> <i>Total other receipts</i>	4,961	6,876	1,915	+38.59	<p>The Council submits claims for refund of VAT at least once a year. In 2019/20 the total claim was £1,084, but in 2020/21 it was £6,144. (In January 2021 the Council received its first VAT invoices from Playdale Playgrounds Ltd for the purchase of new play equipment)</p> <p>In 2019/20 the Council received £310 in settlement of an insurance claim arising out of malicious damage to the skateboard ramps in the Recreation Ground. In 2020/21 it received £720 in settlement of a similar claim.</p> <p>In 2019/20 the Council received two grants amounting to £3,512 from the South Northamptonshire Council's "New Homes Bonus Fund" – for a litter bin costing £176 and a new street lantern in the Recreation Ground costing £3,336. It did not receive any grant moneys in 2020/21.</p> <p>In 2019/20 the Council received interest on its reserves of £55. In 2020/21 this interest was £12</p>
<b>Box 4</b> <i>Staff costs</i>	3,014	3,682	+668	+22.15	<p>The Clerk's hourly rate of pay was increased in January 2020, backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019. It was again increased in September 2020 backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. Also w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 the Clerk's hours were increased from 22 hours a month to 25 hours a month. The effect of this was that his contractual entitlement in 2020/21 was £466 more than his contractual entitlement in 2019/20. Also in October 2020 it became apparent that the nationally agreed "cost of living" increase which had come into force in April 2019 had been overlooked. This had the effect that £101 of the Clerk's contractual entitlement for 2019/20 was not actually paid to him until 2020/21.</p>
<b>Box 5</b> <i>Loan interest/ capital repayments</i>	Nil	Nil			

<b>Box 6</b> <i>All other payments</i>	13,340	31,760	18,420	+138	<p>In 2019/20 the cost of Web Hosting was £275. In 2020/21 it was £425</p> <p>In 2019/20 the cost of Hall hire was £108. In 2020/21 it was Nil.</p> <p>The Council's Insurance premium increased from £779 in 2019/20 to £800 in 2020/21</p> <p>Subscriptions increased by £10.</p> <p>In 2019/20 the cost of training was £84. In 2020/21 it was £38.</p> <p>In 2019/20 the cost of street light repairs was £252. In 2020/21 it was £70</p> <p>In 2019/20 the cost of electricity was £1,181. In 2020/21 it was £1,220.</p> <p>In 2019/20 the total cost of minor repairs was £58. In 2020/21 it was Nil.</p> <p>In 2020/21 the Council spent £2,815 on a tree inspection report and tree surgery.</p> <p>In 2019/20 the Council spent £560 on repairing the skateboards (an insurance claim).</p> <p>In 2020/21 the Annual Inspection of the Recreation Ground cost £5 more than in 2019/20</p> <p>In 2019/20 the Council spent £36 on plants for the flushing tank in the High Street. In 2020/21 these cost £50.</p> <p>In 2019/20 the VAT paid by the Council was £1,162. In 2020/21 it was £3,971.</p> <p>In 2019/20 the Council installed a new street lantern in the Recreation Ground at a cost of £3,336, and purchased a licence for Microsoft Office at a cost of £190.</p> <p>In 2020/21 the Council purchased some litter pickers and bag hoops at a cost of £71</p> <p>In 2020/21 the Council placed an order for new play equipment and paid a first deposit of £16,966</p>
<b>Box 9</b> <i>Total fixed assets &amp; long term investments &amp; assets</i>	82,673	69,336	-13,337	-16.13	<p>The Annual Inspection of the play equipment carried out in the summer of 2020 recommended the immediate removal of much of the existing equipment, on health and safety grounds. This was subsequently done using volunteer labour. The remaining equipment being valued at £1,000, the value of the equipment now "written off" was £9,181.</p> <p>The skateboard ramps were also demolished (having been vandalised beyond economic repair) again using volunteer labour. Written off: £4,156</p>
<b>Box 10</b> <i>Borrowings</i>	Nil	Nil			