

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Methwold Parish Council;**

County area: **Norfolk**

Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all **Blue** highlighted boxes

Next, 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 £200);
- **New from 2020/21 onwards:** variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;

	2022/23 £	2023/24 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input, DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	73,083	85,698				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	66,568	69,896	3,328	5.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	37,463	66,824	29,361	78.37%	YES		CIL payment £2551.42, Section 106 payment £43451.96, VAT Refund £4320.71, Interest £1160.06 Total received - £51,485.15
4 Staff Costs	25,147	40,219	15,072	59.94%	YES		In November 2023 the Local Government Service Pay Agreement 2022/23 was awarded and backdated to April 2023 . An employee was on long term sick leave for 6 months and in receipt of full pay during this time. A Locum Clerk was appointed to cover meetings. There has been an increase in staff hours to undertake bin emptying/litterpicking and handyman tasks. Staff costs for 2022/23 wages £20958.73 for 2023/24 wages = £ 29622.59 National Insurance payments 2022/23 = £3144.66 for 2023/24 National Insurance payments 2023/24 = £8197.72
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	66,269	52,266	-14,003	21.13%	YES		Projects were slow to progress during 2023/24. The transfer of all payments and direct debits for the trust are now complete and being made by the trust from their own account.
7 Balances Carried Forward	85,698	129,933				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments						VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	120,555	120,555	0	0.00%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable