

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority:

Ripple Parish Council

County area (local councils and

Worcestershire

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	23,389	19,671				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	23,656	25,683	2,027	8.57%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	8,708	6,639	-2,069	23.76%	YES		In 2022/23 the council received £200.46 more on grass cutting, £684.25 more on the Lengthsman, £3050 grant and £1846.86 on VAT Refund. This gives a total of £5781.57 extra receipts in 2022/23. In 2023/24 the council received a payment from HRMC for £3579.86 and 132.07 extra in interest, This came to a total of £3711.93 increase on the items list in 2023/24. The difference between £5781.57 and £3711.93 is £2069
4 Staff Costs	10,348	16,313	5,965	57.64%	YES		In 2023/24 the council needed to hire a interim clerk to cover the current clerks maternity leave. The council had to pay statutory maternity pay of £5319.04 plus an extra £643.89 to cover the handover between the covering clerk and current clerk.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	25,734	13,439	-12,295	47.78%	YES		Please note the 2022/23 was reported incorrectly last year and has been amended from 25884 to 25734 this was due to a refund of £126 which was not calculated and to correct a miscalculation of £24. In 2022/23 The council spent £6 extra on the clerk phone, an extra £414.24 on expenses, £495 on handyman, an extra £978.6 on the lengthsman, £34 on other expenses, £2742.9 on the recreation ground, £5934.73 on bins, £769.60 on bins, £276.04 on the newsletter, £75 on a replacement tree, £487.2 on tree removal and £2700 on VAS giving a total of £14913.31 extra in 2022/23. In 2023/24 the council spent extra £12 on audit, £349.95 on a bench, £72 on clerk training, £198 on defib, £190.2 on defib pads, £547.01 on email, £780 on grass cutting, £34.29 on insurance, £136.50 on parish hall hire, £169.20 on payroll, £17.73 on software, £32.15 on subscriptions, £74.40 on website giving an extra £2619.43 spent in 2023/24.
7 Balances Carried Forward	19,671	22,241				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	19,671	22,241				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	53,129	53,128	-1	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