

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **HELPRINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

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

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;

| | 2024/25 £ | 2025/26 £ | 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 | 21,784 | 24,431 | | | | | Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward does not agree, query this |
| 2 Precept or Rates and Levies | 15,095 | 19,500 | 4,405 | 29.18% | YES | | When calculating the budget for 25/26 it was resolved to include £1000 for possible future election costs (to go into an earmarked reserve) and £2000 for required tree maintenance work. The grasscutting contract was also due to be renewed so an extra £1320 was included in the budget for this. £684 was added for training to cover the clerk's CiLCA course. However it was calculated that the insurance cost would be reduced by £150 and the new contract for electricity supply to the memorial light lead to a reduction of £414. These figures give a net increase in precept requirement of £4440 for 25/26. |
| 3 Total Other Receipts | 2,913 | 6,355 | 3,442 | 118.16% | YES | | This includes a large CIL receipt of £3059.77 in 25/26 compared with £890.35 in 24/25, and a VAT refund of £1258.69 for 25/26 compared with £592.11 for 24/25 and cemetery receipts of £1675.00 for 25/26 compared with £1165.00 for 24/25. |
| 4 Staff Costs | 3,954 | 4,050 | 96 | 2.43% | NO | | |
| 5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | NO | | |
| 6 All Other Payments | 11,408 | 17,755 | 6,347 | 55.64% | YES | | Following a tree inspection substantive work was required that had not been budgeted for - total cost £3830.00. Purchases were also made of a new waste bin (£415.00) and two new benches to replace ones that had fallen into disrepair (£800). |
| 7 Balances Carried Forward | 24,430 | 28,481 | | | | | VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED |
| 8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments | 24,430 | 28,481 | | | | | VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED |
| 9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and | 52,515 | 53,375 | 860 | 1.64% | NO | | |
| 10 Total Borrowings | 0 | | 0 | 0.00% | NO | | |

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable

BOX 10 VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED IF CHANGE CAN BE EXPLAINED BY BOX 5 (CAPITAL PLUS INTEREST PAYMENT)