

Explanation of variances

Name of smaller authority: Framsden Parish Council  
County area: Mid Suffolk

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	22,257	38,454				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	9,940	10,129	189	1.90%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	60,729	5,772	-54,957	90.50%	YES		<p>During year 22/23 considerable grant funding of £44,871 was received to enable the Council to undertake a major renovation of the Play Area. This compares to only £2053 in grants and donations received into the Parish Council funds (for Village Hall works and other small projects). This gives a difference of £42818 less from year 22/23 to 23/24</p> <p>During year 22/23 a major backdated claim for VAT was submitted, resulting in a claim for £13603 (which included a large proportion of Play Area works). As the VAT claims are now up to date (the one done in 22/23 was for the two preceding years and half of the current year) there was only a six month claim period giving a claim of only £265. This gives a difference of £13338 less from year 22/23 to 23/24</p> <p>During year 22/23 Village Hall rental was only £1215, whereas in year 23/24 it was £1705. This gives a difference of £490 more from year 22/23 to 23/24</p> <p>During year 22/23 Recycling income was only £1045, whereas in year 23/24 it was £1749. This gives a difference of £704 more from year 22/23 to 23/24</p> <p>The above four calculations give a differential of £54,962 on the receipts compared year on year and explain the reason for the high variance. If this figure is taken off the 22/23 figures it would not have triggered the request for an explanation.</p>
4 Staff Costs	4,423	4,648	225	5.09%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	50,049	39,603	-10,446	20.87%	YES		<p>During year 22/23 £38899 was spent on the Play Area, this was not the total, as due to major snagging issues nearly £21K was retained by the Parish Council until the Play Area passed safety inspection. Therefore during year 23/24 the remaining payment of £20976 was made to the Play Area contractors. This gives a difference of £17923 less from year 22/23 to 23/24</p> <p>During year 22/23 Village Hall general maintenance and running was a total cost of £2805, in year 23/24 the general maintenance and running was £3174 this is due to the installation of a broadband connection and the hall and increased electricity costs. This gives a difference of £369 more from year 22/23 to 23/24</p> <p>During year 22/23 the Council's insurance was only £595, in year 23/24 due to an increased flood risk assesment for the Village Hall the insurance rose to £1477. This give a difference of £882 more from year 22/23 to 23/24</p> <p>During year 22/23 the Village Hall had £1701 spent on extra repair works and renovations over and above general day to day maintenance (including electrical works, loft boarding and a new floor in one area). During year 23/24 the Village Hall had £9410 spent on essential repair works (£7950 on soleplate repairs, £1360 on external painting and £100 donation for help from a community help group in preparing architect plans for further major renovation works to improve accesibility). This gives a difference of £7709 more from year 22/23 to 23/24.</p> <p>The above four calculations give a differential of £8963 on the payments compared year on year and explain the reason for the high variance. If this was taken off the 22/23 figures then it would not have triggered a request for explanation.</p>
7 Balances Carried Forward	38,454	10,104				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	38,454	10,104				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	47,696	47,890	194	0.41%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	0		0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable