

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Marshland St James Parish Council**

County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

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;

- a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

	2021/22 £	2022/23 £	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	81,094	31,283				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	30,425	37,500	7,075	23.25%	YES		Precept increased to meet budget aspirations.
3 Total Other Receipts	77,438	24,690	-52,748	68.12%	YES		Major playground improvement project completed in 2021/22, £43,222 grant funding for that project not repeated. VAT reclaimed reduced from £21,481 in 2021/22 to £2,868 in 2022/23. £10,000 grant aid for Neighbourhood Plan received in 2022/23 only.
4 Staff Costs	8,408	9,329	921	10.95%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	5,756	5,756	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	143,510	34,207	-109,303	76.16%	YES		Major playground improvement project completed, £97,084 expenditure in 2021/22 for that project not repeated. VAT paid reduced from £21,869 to £3,411 year-on-year. Neighbourhood Plan costs increased from £3,520 in 2021/2 to £7,119 in current year. One-off tree surgery cost of £1,300 in 2022/23.
7 Balances Carried Forward	31,283	44,181			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	31,283	44,181				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	228,144	228,553	409	0.18%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	38,900	33,924	-4,976	12.79%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable