

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Womersh Parish Council (DRAFT)**

County area (local councils are): **Waverley Borough Council**

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;

| DRAFT figures | | | | | 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) |
|---|---------|----------|----------|---------|-----------------------|--|--|
| 2022/23 | 2023/24 | Variance | Variance | | | | |
| £ | £ | £ | % | | | | |
| 1 Balances Brought Forward | 127,848 | 145,299 | | | | Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees | |
| 2 Precept or Rates and Levies | 84,547 | 98,498 | 13,951 | 16.50% | YES | The Precept was increased to reflect the reduction in the commons maintenance grant received from Waverley Borough Council, which reduced from £10,992.64 to £5,633.73 and also to reflect the increased contractor costs, including the introduction of mowing of Womersh Cricket Club outfield (50% contribution from Cricket Club). The Parish Council increased their contributions to the pavilion running costs. Predicted high treeworks cost following the tree hazard assessment were budgeted for but these were lower than anticipated. Other proactive actions raised the receipts and payments as detailed below. | |
| 3 Total Other Receipts | 36,732 | 320,060 | 283,328 | 771.34% | YES | The Council received donations including £50,745 for playground equipment and installation, plus £3k other sundry items (To explain differences in receipts and payment with respect to playgrounds, further items will be installed at Lords Hill Playground in 2024/25). The Council are in receipt of PWLB of £200,000 having followed the necessary processes. £34k donations received for the purchase of Barnett Hill Fields. There was an additional £1.5k rent from the community room and allotments. The Council did not receive any money from the Community Infrastructure Levy this year, whereas in 2022/23 they received £12,318. There was also a reduced contribution from WBC for commons maintenance. | |
| 4 Staff Costs | 25,022 | 32,491 | 7,469 | 29.85% | YES | The Clerk opted into the pension scheme upon re-enrolment. The NJC paycales increased wages more than predicted and the Council approved overtime payments during the financial year in order to complete Council approved actions. | |
| 5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment | 0 | 8,611 | 8,611 | #DIV/0! | #DIV/0! | The Council are in receipt of PWLB of £200,000 having followed the necessary processes, plus £351 was paid in interest on a bridging loan. There is permission to borrow up to £450,000 with future drawdowns planned for capital improvements to the Arbutthott Hall and potentially another drawdown for the Barnett Hill Fields, considerate of other income streams. | |
| 6 All Other Payments | 78,806 | 411,672 | 332,866 | 422.39% | YES | The Council contribution to the purchase of the a field was £290,000, which was £200,000 from PWLB loan. £32,000 from donations into the Council account and £58,000 is currently being covered by Council reserves pending the potential sale of Gerald's Wood or the drawdown of a loan. Remaining fund came through the Womersh Foundation. £46,000 was invested in new playground equipment and installation, comprising £22,000 in equipment added to the asset register and the remaining £24,000 in installation and associated health and safety considerations (e.g. fencing hire) and surfacing. | |
| 7 Balances Carried Forward | 145,299 | 111,083 | | | | VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED | |
| 8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments | 145,299 | 111,083 | | | | VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED | |
| 9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and | 66,194 | 538,639 | 472,445 | 713.73% | YES | The Parish Council purchased Barnett Hill Fields for £450,000. They invested in £22,000 in play equipment at Womersh Playground. | |
| 10 Total Borrowings | 0 | 198,000 | 198,000 | #DIV/0! | #DIV/0! | #DIV/0! | |

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable