

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller body: **BOBBING PARISH COUNCIL**

The 'Practitioners' Guide' provides guidance on explaining significant variances. **Please provide full explanations, including numerical values**, for the following:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than 200);
- if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept value (Box 2).

Section 2	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)	
Box 2 <i>Precept or Rates and Levies</i>	13500	15875	2375	17.59	Properties erroneously missed by Swale Borough Council which should have been within the boundary – credited with £2000 being the amount due during the year.	13875 2000
Box 3 <i>Total other receipts</i>	2005	1381	624	-31.12	Reduction in grants received	14/15 - £500 + £750 + £500 = 15/16 - £152 + £842.69 + £111.34 = 1750 1106
Box 4 <i>Staff costs</i>	2745	2912	167	6.08	Increase in hours	Hours increased from 4.5 to 5.5 per week
Box 6 <i>All other payments</i>	8082	15049	6967	86.19	Concrete Barrier project – cost £8400	14/15 – Fencing £2528 + Traffic Survey £1211 = 15/16 – Concrete Barriers £8400 + Memorial renovation £2274 = 3739 10674

<p>Explanation for 'high' reserves</p>	<p>Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because in 2006/07 the Parish Council looked to assist the Village Hall with its aspirations to build an additional storage room and new and enlarged toilet areas (planning permission was granted); quotes received at that time were for over £100,000 and the Village Hall did not have that sort of money. A new hall was proposed on a nearby development within the Parish so the project was put on hold hoping that perhaps the two could merged into one. After a number of years it became clear that this aspiration was not going to happen; the new estate wanted its own community hall. Meanwhile any annual underspend by the Parish Council had been accumulating to give financial support for the original project, which the village hall now needs to revert back to. Due to the size of the Village Hall (the new community hall is much smaller and cannot hold large events) it remains an important asset for the Parish. Since the last Audit the Parish Council has been made aware that the Hall will be receiving some Section 106 funding, developer contribution from a building project within the Parish. Planning Permission has been submitted and approved so hopefully Swale Borough Council will now look towards releasing the S.106 funding and the Parish Council can look towards assisting with this project in 2016/17.</p> <p>The Parish Council had agreed to help the Parish Church with financial support towards recasting the Church Bells; it was learnt three months ago that this project will not go ahead. £1500 was agreed but this has not been requested to date, and the Church is not on mains water supply and is also looking to upgrade some of its lighting and it not looking to install an internal toilet; investigations have been ongoing through various bodies as the Church is a Grade 1 Listed building; this is taking time. Since the last Audit the Parish Council has again approached the Church regarding this funding but we understand this is still ongoing. Other initiatives for 2016/17 include creation of a new newsletter.</p>	<p>See attached explanation and costings.</p>	
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