

Explanation of variances – Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council

Name of smaller authority: **Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council**
 County area (local councils and **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;
- 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	322,757	347,956				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	122,000	122,000	0	0.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	72,164	87,023	14,859	20.59%	YES		There has been an increase of £14,809.55 in the income received from 2021/22 and 2022/23. The increase is a result of an increase of £7,395.38 in donations and grants and grants received, an increase of £6,659.40 in burial receipts, an increase of £293.91 in the allotment metered water that was received by allotment tenants, an increase of £111.64 in bank interest and an increase of £1612.53 VAT refunds. In the 2022/23 year donations were received from the estate of former resident (£1,500), Grants from East Suffolk Council for dog bins, Jubilee Event and Speed Indicator Device and Coronation Event (£10,228.03), Community Infrastructure Levy (£11,500.46); refund from the police because for a time a PCSO was not in post (£3,820.83), grant funding from Suffolk County Council (green newsletter , bin stickers and speeding stickers £2,486.18). There was a decrease of £100.18 in allotment rents and a decrease of £1,163.13 in miscellaneous income received. The decrease in miscellaneous income was a result of a reduction in advertising income in the 2022/23 financial year and in 2021/22 the Parish Council received a insurance premium refund as Community Action Suffolk could not provide the fidelity cover required as part of the three year long term agreement with the Parish Council.
4 Staff Costs	47,278	62,690	15,412	32.60%	YES		Staff costs rose as a result of an increase in the number of hours that the Clerk and Assistant Clerk are employed and the change in roles. The roles changed in July 2022 and the hours of the Clerk increased from 120 hours to 160 hours a month from July 2022 and the Assistant Clerk & RFO's hours changed from 120 hours to 130 hours from July 2022. Additional increases is a result of NALC cost of living increases for the Clerk and Assistant Clerk&RFO as well as a change of Clerks during March 2023.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	21,331	21,331	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	100,356	97,665	-2,691	2.68%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	347,956	375,293				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED EXPLANATION REQUIRED ON RESERVES TAB AS TO WHY CARRY FORWARD RESERVES ARE GREATER THAN TWICE INCOME FROM LOCAL TAXATION/LEVIES	The Parish Council has earmarked reserves totalling £313,454.90 and general reserves of £61,837.62. In the 2022-23 financial year the precept was £123,300.
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	347,956	375,293				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	149,912	166,170	16,258	10.85%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	49,621	30,490	-19,131	38.55%	YES		20 year PWLB loan is now paying off increased capital each year. Final loan payment will be 10/05/2024

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)